

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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NEW FACES CERTAIN IN AROK SQUAD

By David Jack

LIKELY TO COME . . .



Graham Jennings, Olympic



Terry Greedy, St George

LIKELY TO GO . . .



Phil O'Connor, Wollongong



Gary Byrne, Canberra

The Australian national squad to go into training camp for three matches against England in June will be named this afternoon (Tuesday).

The players have been picked after long consultation between national coach Les Scheinflug and the man who will actually be in charge when the Englishmen tour, Frank Arok.

After the two disappointing defeats at the hands of New Zealand, it is clear the new squad will contain several new faces. But who will be promoted? And who will be dropped?

Frank Arok would not release the names of the players until Australian Soccer Federation protocol has been satisfied; the clubs, it seems, must be informed before the media, but he was quite forthcoming when I spoke to him about the sort of players he has in mind.

Since Arok is a great admirer of his own St George goalkeeper Terry Greedy, it is obvious Greedy will take over from the injured Martyn Crook.

And that is some progress for this Australian-born schoolteacher who spent almost the whole of 1982 in the St. George reserves.

Also there is little doubt that the in-form Greg Woodhouse will be offered the other goalkeeping position in the 22-man squad.

I do not expect the defence to be shuffled very much but a surprise selection in this department could be the recently-converted Graham Jennings of Sydney Olympic.

Jennings has been a winger all through his career but he has turned in some excellent displays this year with Olympic at left-back and this has not gone unnoticed by Arok and Scheinflug.

In the midfield, it is certain that the proven talents of Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Katholos, George Christopoulos and Joe Watson will be recognised. But it is in midfield that we may expect major surprises in the training squad.

I believe Arok and Scheinflug have tossed around names like Jimmy Cant, Mike Valentine, Ken

Murphy and Jimmy Campbell. All four could be in line for selection. But then again, one or another could miss out.

In the attack, once again it is certain that John Kosmina and his Sydney City team-mate David Mitchell will be in the side. Also there is no doubt that the explosive Marshall Soper of Olympic will be chosen.

Two other forwards will make up the striking force, with Mark Jankovics, Phil O'Connor and Bas Giampaolo in contention. O'Connor could miss the boat this time even though he provided quite good penetration when the Kiwis played against Australia in Melbourne.

It must be stressed that the squad due to be named today is only the initial selection for the first Socceroo training camp.

Sir, Arthur George, the president of the ASF, made that quite clear when he forecast: "Between now and the matches against England in June there will certainly be changes. Players in form will be brought into the squad and those who lose form will be dropped. This is only the starting point — the first training camp."

This is the sort of 22-man squad I expect to be named today by the ASF:

Goal: Greedy and Woodhouse.

Defence: Russell, Ratcliffe, Blair, Bertogna, Henderson, Davidson, Mike O'Shea, Jennings.

Midfield: Christopoulos, Murphy, Watson, Valentine, Cant, Katholos, Raskopoulos.

Forwards: Kosmina, Jankovics, Giampaolo, Mitchell, Soper.

Home away from home

The NSL match between Sydney City and Brisbane City will be played in Lismore at 7.30pm on Saturday, April 30.

Confidentially...

A decision is expected this week on Australia's travel plans for the World Youth Championship in Mexico.

The Youth Socceroos want to fly direct on the Pacific route but FIFA and Coca-Cola would prefer to get as many teams as possible on one KLM jet departing Amsterdam for Mexico City.

It is significant that the decision will be made in Atlanta, Georgia, and not in Zurich. The sponsor, it seems, is calling the tune.

★ ★ ★

Some people in England are taking the English tour of Australia seriously. A photographer from the London evening, "The Standard" was at the Olympic v Slickers match at Pratten Park and he told ASW he wanted pictures of Australians likely to play against England.

★ ★ ★

Youth Socceroos Rod Brown and Tom McCulloch were model players last week! The pair were dressed in Marconi's new playing strip — featuring the CSR symbol of the club's new sponsor — when sponsorship was officially announced at a media lunch at the Marconi club.

★ ★ ★

People are still arguing about the actual scorer of St George's goal in the match against Newcastle

KB United a few weeks ago.

The ground announcer gave it to David Ratcliffe but some observers — including our own reporter — claim Kenny Wilson scored. Now comes the OFFICIAL verdict from NSL headquarters. Neither player scored! It was an "own goal" by KB's Craig Mason.

NSL secretary Steve Kamasz said: "I've watched the video of that goal eight times and still can't work it out. But the referee's report from Peter Rampley gave the goal to Mason — so that's official."

★ ★ ★

Wollongong Wolves midfielder Phil Kerr has improved by leaps and bounds this year. He is getting involved in play and moving forward to keep the pressure on his opponents in the style perfected by Saints' reliable Mark Barton.

★ ★ ★

Johann Scharmann is expected to be back in the Leichhardt line-up for the game against the Newcastle KB Raiders at the International Sports Centre at the weekend.

★ ★ ★

Although Geraldo Gomez is still relatively raw in NSL football, he may win a national squad place on his ability to tackle and mark an attacker out of the

game. Stand-in coach Frank Arok is convinced that Gomez has many of the qualities needed by a Socceroo defender.

★ ★ ★

Many Northern NSW fans are expecting big things of the representative team. Their win over the Young Socceroos at Cessnock Sports Ground was not unexpected and Derek Tood, Michael Bogaard, John Cowburn and the rest are believed to be outstanding performers of the future.

★ ★ ★

Tony Boskovic, Australia's most experienced referee, recently controlled the Japan v South Korea international in Tokyo. Played in blizzard conditions, the match attracted a 48,000 crowd. Tony has a healthy respect for the standard of both teams, and says that the Japanese were a particularly skilful lot.

★ ★ ★

Tony Brennan is missing from the Canberra line-up this week as he was sent off in the National Youth League game between the Arrows and Marconi Leopards.

★ ★ ★

Memp NSL secretary Steve Kamasz... Can you achieve what has been impossible so far? Many teams with dark colors or



Tony Brennan

distinctive patterns on their jerseys have numbers which cannot be seen against the background colors. Another who should have a white patch behind their numbers is Marconi, whose dark blue shirts have red numbers which are often indistinguishable. A review of the position is needed urgently to help the fans identify the players.

★ ★ ★

Peter Tredinnick was a very disappointed young man when his team Leichhardt played Wollongong Wolves.

Tredinnick had been looking forward to playing against his old club but a groin strain on the Friday before the match put him on the sideline.

Wolves' coach Willie Wallace could have been a bit disappointed also but for a different reason.

Wallace must have wished he had Tredinnick in his midfield because they certainly miss him.

In both home games the Wolves have tended to play a negative type of football in midfield, lacking a player of Tredinnick's attacking ability.

★ ★ ★

Illawarra soccer made a sizeable donation to the Illawarra Crippled Children's Society when they staged their annual Charity Shield.

The match was played at Graham Park, where Fernhill beat last season's premiers West Figtree 1-0 with a goal by stand-in striker Michael "Chuck" Connors.

Connors only made the team because regular striker Peter Thompson has a knee injury but he made the most of his chance.

Despite having lost five players from last year's team Fernhill coach Daryl Glover is confident his side will do well when the premiership starts.

★ ★ ★

Wollongong Wolves coach Willie Wallace could have let a very good full-back slip through his fingers.

Former Fernhill fullback Grant Isedale is now playing with Fairy Meadow after trialling with the Wolves.

Always highly rated in district football, Isedale is playing very well with his new club.

His defence, speed and ball distribution would be a big asset to the local NSL club.

Fairy Meadow supporters are shaking their heads and asking how they came to get Isedale from the Wolves but they aren't complaining.

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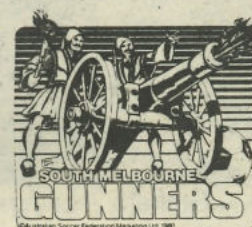
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EARLY MATCH 12.45 PM
N.S.L. YOUTH LEAGUE



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News from Illawarra

By Phil Murphy

Former Wollongong City midfielder Zivko Hristovski has found his goalscoring touch since switching to Wollongong United.

Playing in the Sydney second division, United have started off well and Hristovski has played a large part in this.

He scored the winner when United beat Artarmon 2-1 then grabbed an important equaliser in the 1-1 draw with Warringah.

The goal against Warringah was a gem from 25m and coach Larry Ashbolt is hoping his new signing can get a few more in the near future.

★ ★ ★

Illawarra Association president George Naylor was critical of the number of pre-season trial games played over the Easter weekend.

Naylor said clubs have made it clear they don't want the premiership to start over Easter because they have players away.

"Now we find clubs playing trials in three grades and they don't seem to be short of players," Naylor said.

"If we could have started a week earlier it would have left us with a spare weekend for washouts during the season."

Naylor said the trials weren't just isolated because most of the 34 clubs in the three divisions had been involved.

★ ★ ★

Klaus Wenig has been appointed secretary of the Illawarra Coaches' Association.

A former talented defender with South Coast United, when he was just 16, and later with district club Bellambi, Wenig is keen to see the ranks of the coaches boosted this season.

He reports there are 30 members but many people won't join up because they feel they may be pressured into things straight away.

"There is no pressure at all; we just want new members to come along and see for themselves what we are trying to do," Wenig said.

The coaches meet once a month at Balgownie Clubrooms.

★ ★ ★

Coaching at Berkeley is a real family affair this season.

Derek Black has retained his job as first grade coach with the club and his brother Graham will handle the reserve grade side.

Also a well-known cricketer with Berkeley Club, Derek faces a tough assignment this season.

Berkeley's committee have decided no match payments will be made this year — a move that other clubs in premier league

seem certain to make in the near future.

In a surprise move in pre-season games, Black used Nick Greathead in the sweeper's role and he did quite well.

Defender Ian Mowbray has been sidelined with an arm injury suffered at work but will be in the side when the premiership gets underway.

★ ★ ★

Shaun Billington certainly came to the rescue of premiers West-Figtree this season after they lost their two top goalkeepers from last season.

Kel Potter and Phil Luskin both left the club after last season's record of three grand final wins and Figtree were left with no keeper for first grade.

Billington, who had played with Figtree previously, came into the side and is doing a top job.

The son of former South Coast United goalkeeper Wilf Billington, Shaun has a very safe pair of hands and already has developed a good understanding with the solid Figtree defence.

By Phil Murphy

Corrimal are already being hailed as the "comeback club" after winning the Corrimal Leagues Club \$1000 knockout final.

They took the major slice of the money with a 4-1 win over Cringila in the final.

George Young, back out of retirement, scored two of the goals with penalty kicks and Paul Lackenby also got one.

Young has been out of the game for quite a while after helping Figtree win a premiership but he has wasted no time getting back to form in the Corrimal midfield.

Lackenby played Church League last season after starting off with Fairy Meadow and failing to make first grade.

To complete the comeback story, Bob Crowe is also in the Corrimal side in the middle of the defence.

Crowe was a very promising junior a few years back and played a few games in first grade with Safeway United.

A teacher, Crowe has been working in Cooma for six years, but is now back in Illawarra and walked in on a Corrimal training session looking for a game.

Coach Graeme Funnell welcomed him with open arms and claims he will be one of the top players in premier league this season.

★ ★ ★

The rain was pouring down and the field in danger of disappearing

From Tom's Cabin

For those who go for statistics.

That 5-1 defeat from Olympic was the most number of goals scored against Sydney City in a match.

Back in 1979 they lost 4-0 to Marconi.

• • •

Wonder if there is a record coming up for the most "own goals" for a season?

Before last Sunday's matches there were already three on the board — Willis (Wollongong), Wilkinson (Brisbane City) and Mountford (Newcastle).

• • •

Lots of names being linked with Adelaide City as coach Bobby Ferguson looks to strengthen his squad.

But the main one could be Sydney City's Nelio Borges, and perhaps Jimbo Muir, who is currently in Hong Kong.

He was a favorite with City fans before leaving for Marconi then H.K.

• • •

West coach Alan Vest annoyed when told an interstate coach had flown into a Adelaide, offered one of his players an \$8,000 signing on fee, and flew out again.

The Hawks' boss is investigating the incident.

Crook on his knees

By Tom McKain

The rush signing of Gary Sproul on loan as a replacement for injured Socceroo Martyn Crook, is a sign West Adelaide don't expect the goalkeeper to make a fast recovery from injury.

As we went to press Crook was facing an operation on torn knee ligaments.

"The position is not clear, but I had to make a decision so I signed Sproul," said coach Alan Vest.

Sproul played for West Ham and came to Adelaide to join Croatia three years ago, with his eye on the NSL.

Although only on loan, his contract is an open-ended.

"Martyn might make a quick recovery, but at the moment it could be Gary in goal until the end of the season," said Vest.

Frank Boetel, Crook's 18 year old deputy, has been released to Croatia as part of the loan arrangement.

And it is ironic that David Miller, Azzurri's young keeper who is now in line for the Youth Socceroos, was with West until Vest swapped him in a deal to secure centre back Robbie Dunn from Azzurri.

Had Miller still been with West he might have been in the running for a spot between the posts in the Senior and Youth Socceroos.



S. Maxwell (Adelaide City) and B. Heirn (West Adelaide) in a tussle.



Terry Byrne, Canberra clears from Adelaide City's Sergio Melta in their recent NSL match.

Down on the Coast

By Phil Murphy

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★ ★ ★

The rain was pouring down and the field in danger of disappearing

under water when he struck.

It was during the Fairy Meadow-Dee Why second division clash in Wollongong that Gary Duckling scored his goal.

Naturally conditions were made to measure for someone of that name and he helped Dee Why to a 2-0 lead after just 15 minutes.

Things then started to go wrong for the visitors and Fairy Meadow bounced back to win the game 3-2.

★ ★ ★

Fairy Meadow players provided a unique gesture when the committee recently thought they had missed out on signing former Wolves defender Bill de Graaf.

De Graaf played part of last season with Melbourne-based Ringwood and the club wanted \$2000 for him.

After losing the sponsorship of the Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow couldn't afford to buy De Graaf, but the team members then volunteered to help.

Fullback Micky White was first to come forward with a donation of \$200 to be deducted from his playing fees at the end of the season.

Other players followed his example and officials

were able to complete the deal.

White said he made the offer because he feels De Graaf could be the difference between Fairy Meadow winning promotion or staying in second division.

A long serving player with the club White said he felt it was in his own interests to help the club get the best players available.

If that's not team spirit you tell us what is.

★ ★ ★

Wollongong United coach Larry Ashbolt wasn't very impressed with his first look at Artarmon Reserve.

United beat Artarmon 2-1 on what Ashbolt described as the worst ground he has struck since becoming involved in the league.

"They wouldn't even qualify for the Illawarra premier league with facilities like that," he said.

"I can imagine some very interesting results coming from Artarmon as the season progresses and I'm glad we have managed to get two points from them in our only visit there."

★ ★ ★

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The same, old story

By Andrew Paschalidis

This weekend's State League games should provide no real surprises, with the consistent and strong sides chasing victory once again.

Cant-M'ville and Bankstown, two of the youngest sides in the competition, should provide an enthralling game with a draw the likely result.

Polonia, with the addition of their two skilful imports, could topple the strong Ku-Ring-Gai lineup.

Yugal will be hoping for a win against Riverwood at their new home ground, Fraser Park. However, if Riverwood can show the fighting spirit from their previous game against

Polonia, this could be a close game.

Croatia look like continuing their undefeated streak against Inter-Monaro at King Tomislav. The solid defence of Croatia has only allowed one goal in three games.

The match of the round will be contested between top four candidates Manly and Sutherland. Sutherland will be aiming to keep their unbeaten record intact and, at home, should be able to handle the strong Manly side.

A determined Auburn will find Blacktown too hard to match. The Demons are still buzzing from their fine victories over Melita and

Avala.

On the other hand Melita would still be disappointed after dropping three points in their last three games. At

home they should collect their third victory of the season against a shattered Avala side.

Melita will have a new face appearing at their training sessions in the weeks ahead.

Gary Byrne, a current Australian representative, plays for Canberra but is still working and living in Sydney. This may explain his request to train under Raul Blanco.

Manly certainly have the experience when it comes to "winners".

Current first grade coach Jimmy Hughes, his assistant Hugh Hendry and second grade coach Brian Stock were in the same Manly side that gained promotion to Division One back in 1968.

TURNER CUP

The former 2SM Cup for under 15 school teams has been integrated into the state-wide Bill Turner cup this year.

Schools wishing to join this popular competition can complete the entry form below and send it urgently to the Sydney organiser, John Moscovis at Epping Boys High School.

Quick action is needed as entries close on Wednesday, April 20.

As usual entries can come from schools in both the public and private sectors of the NSW education system.

It is the only major schools soccer competition conducted on that basis. For that reason alone it deserves every success.

As was the case last year, matches in the competition are to be played outside school hours.

The format requires that all Round 1, 2 and 3 and 4 be played at the school's own ground. Further matches might be promoted at night.

A set of rules and the competition draw will be sent to every competing school prior to the start.

Followers of this excellent competition will recall that last year Bankstown Boys High not only won the 2SM Cup, but also won through to defeat Newcastle school Glendale High and become the champion NSW under 15 school for the year.

Please cut out and return the form below to: Mr John Moscovis, c/- Epping Boys High School, Vimeira Rd, Eastwood 2122.

ENTRIES CLOSE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20.

BILL TURNER CUP UNDER 15 SOCCER COMPETITION

SCHOOL: Phone No:

Coach's Name:

Coach's home Phone No:

School colours:

Home Ground:

NB: Early round matches will be drawn to minimise travelling distances.

We agree to abide by the rules and conditions laid down by the Bill Turner Cup Organising Committee.

(Principal's Signature)

(Date)

MONARO v SUTHERLAND 2-2

Inter-Monaro held Sutherland to an entertaining draw at Marco Polo Oval.

Monaro flooded Sutherland with constant attacks in the first 20 minutes.

Sutherland responded, but were let down with some poor finishing.

Monaro opened their account in the 35th minute when Godzik beat two defenders and crossed the ball which Arquero met with a spectacular diving header.

The second half saw a determined display from Sutherland. Harrington

equalled the score with a solid shot from close range.

More pressure on the Monaro defence resulted in Sutherland hitting the lead. A shot from Harrington hit a defender and spun into the back of the net.

Monaro were rewarded with a fine goal from Arquero after he latched onto a perfect ball from Vieri.

Monaro played with great determination and Arquero and Godzik stood out.

Dal Forno, Rogers and Harrington all had strong

games for Sutherland

INTER-MONARO: G Curcic, C. Leith, A. Charles, J. Santolin, M. Francis, B. Godzik, A. Monteross (R. Vieri 60m), R. Popovic, B. Willcox, J. Arquero (M. Arispon 88m), A. Reis.

SUTHERLAND: M. Haynes, B. Cashman, M. Hesford (S. Meades 29m), A. Shartegger, V. Dal Forno, G. Watkins, M. Harrington, J. Webber, N. Woome, C. Rogers, S. Clinch. GOALS: Monaro: Arquero (35m, 63m), Sutherland: Harrington (49m, 61m).

Ku-Ring-Gai have lost the service of second grade coach, Frank Bertinetti. Frank put forward his resignation due to personality differences within the club.

The vacancy will be filled by the third grade coach, Phil Jones. Former Ku-Ring-Gai player, Tommy Morrow will be handling the third grade side.

Sutherland's young striker, Shane Clinch, has been recognised by National Youth Coach Les Schienflug.

N.S.W. SOCCER FEDERATION

presents

TOP ACTION SOCCER

DIVISION 1

Round 5 — Sunday April 9

Cant-M'ville Oly v Bankstown

Arlington Oval

Sunday April 10

Polonia v Ku-Ring-Gai

Chopin Park

S.S.C. Yugal v Riverwood

Fraser Park

Croatia Sydney v Inter Monaro

King Tomislav Park

Sutherland Shire v Manly W'gah

Seymour Shaw Park

Auburn v Blacktown City

Mona Park

Melita Eagles v Avala

Melita Stadium

DIVISION 2

Round 5 — Saturday April 9

Gladesville Ravens v Warringah N'Been

Peel Park

Sunday April 10

Dee Why v Uni of N.S.W.

Graham Reserve

Blacktown United v Revesby Workers

Francis Park

Parramatta City v Fairy Meadow

Garside Park

Penrith United v Artarmon

Cook Park

Belmore v Rockdale

Blick Oval

North Bankstown v Wollongong United

Potts Park

DIVISION 1

Round 6 — Sunday April 16

Melita Eagles v Bankstown

Melita Stadium

Avala v Auburn

Knight Park

Sunday April 17

Inter Monaro v Polonia

Marco Polo Oval

Ku-Ring-Gai v S.S.C. Yugal

Parklands Oval

Riverwood v Cant-M'ville Oly

TBA

Manly Warringah v Croatia Sydney

Cromer Park

Blacktown City v Sutherland Shire

Gabbie Stadium

WEEKEND RESULTS

1ST DIVISION

	I	II	III
Inter-Monaro v Sutherland	2-2	1-4	—
Polonia v Riverwood	2-0	4-0	2-2
Bankstown v SSC Yugal	0-0	2-0	6-1
Cant-M'ville v Melita	0-0	0-3	2-1
Ku-Ring-Gai v Croatia	1-1	1-1	0-3
Manly v Auburn	3-2	2-1	9-2
Blacktown v Avala	5-0	4-2	2-1
Melita v Yugal	3-0	7-1	1-0

2ND DIVISION

Revesby Workers v Dee Why	3-3	2-0	1-5
Artarmon v Gladesville Ravens	3-4	2-2	3-3
Fairy Meadow v North Bankstown	3-0	2-2	5-3
Uni. of NSW v Penrith United	0-2	0-2	2-2
Warringah N'Been v Belmore	3-0	1-3	3-0
Rockdale v W'wong United	2-1	1-3	1-1
Parramatta City v Blacktown United	0-2	2-0	2-1

3RD DIVISION

Baulkham Hills v Lane Cove Uni	1-3	1-1	—
North Ryde v Queens Park E/S	2-1	3-0	0-4
Campbelltown City v Bondi Marine	2-2	2-1	5-2
CSI v Mt Druitt Town	0-1	1-2	0-6
Liverpool Albion v Bathurst '75	0-3	0-1	2-0
Kingsford v Gladesville Hby	deferred		

INTER URBAN 1ST DIVISION

	I	II
Maroubra United v Eastern Creek	1-1	2-0
Fairfield Kiev v Spanish Club	3-0	0-2
Sydney Uni. v Hurstville-Zagreb	TBA	
Port Hacking v Concordia	1-1	2-0
King Tomislav v Wentz Waratahs	4-1	2-3
Nineveh Eagles v Fairfield West	2-2	2-4

INTER URBAN 2ND DIVISION

Chelsea v Sydney Maccabi	0-0	1-1
West United v Pagewood	2-2	1-3
Trasandinos Sports v Chile Sports	2-2	3-3
Campbelltown Gunns. v Moorebank	2-1	1-0
West St George v Padstow Park	3-2	2-1

INTER URBAN 3RD DIVISION

Macquarie Uni. v Hawkesbury Dist	2-1	0-3
Revesby Rovers v Blacktown Wands	2-5	4-3
Liverpool City v Green Valley Utd	1-1	0-0
Macarthur United v Haberfield B/D's	2-0	6-0
Smithfield Hotspurs v Ryde District	1-1	2-6

INTER URBAN 4TH DIVISION

Rangers Hadjuk v Lithgow Workers	2-0	8-0
Liverpool Rangers v Chullora	1-1	1-3
Dulwich Hill v Rosebery	deferred	
Murray Farm Rangs v Sth Sydney Bunn	3-3	6-0
Blacktown Workers v Hellas Poseidon	1-2	2-5
Colo Colo v Nepean Rovers	2-2	0-2

INTER URBAN 5TH DIVISION

Concord Juniors v Argentinian L/U	1-2	2-1
Castle Hill v Lansvale United	4-1	1-0
St Marys RSL v Jedinstvo Uni	3-4	3-1
Welcome Sports v Santiago Wands	7-0	6-1
Liverpool United v Sans Souci	TBA	

Manager named

Jim Giffin, secretary of the Bankstown Soccer club, has been appointed manager of the NSW side to meet Queensland in the Centenary game on May 8.

He was offered this important role by NSWIF secretary Aulden Brown. He had indicated he would be available to manage any representative side and thought he might be able to manage a junior side.

Mr Giffin said: "I hope to

support John Watkiss (NSW coach) to the best of my ability.

"I've always tried to be supportive in my administrative capacities and I tend to thrive on maintaining player-interests."

NSW TOP SCORERS

Arnold (Croatia)	4
McLachlan (Blacktown)	4
Smith (Manly)	4
Hensman (Croatia)	3
Harrington (Sutherland)	3
Terre (Polonia)	3
Walker (Blacktown)	3

Melita have put four players on loan again this season: Anito Budini to Southern Districts, Dave Rodgers to Warringah, Wayne Parker to Bankstown and Steve Luxford to the amateur club, UTA.

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New South Wales

No place like home

By Andrew Paschalidis

The weekend State League games proved that the theory of home ground advantage still exists.

Blacktown won well at home and handed Avala their first defeat. McLachlan helped his chances of representing the Australian Youth team with a fine hat-trick.

The strength of defensive play proved the deciding factor in the Bankstown-Polonia game. The young Bankstown defence reached the same standards set by Gogic, McIntosh and Clark of Yugal.

Polonia's two imports from Poland, Irak Garlowski and Henry Kowalczyk,

overcame jetlag and had promising debut's for their new club.

Substitutes played important roles in the Manly-Auburn game. Greaves came on for Auburn and equalled the scores within two minutes. Not to be outdone, Scott sealed the game for Manly after being on the field for less than

three minutes.

Croatia's young striker, Arnold added another goal to his list which now takes his tally to four for the season.

Monaro still remain undefeated at home after their fine draw at Marco Polo Oval against the competition leaders, Sutherland.



Jim Binos (left) and Dennis Duarte in Sunday's Cant-M'ville v Melita match at Arlington Oval.

CANT-M'VILLE v MELITA 0-0

A solid Canterbury defence held out Melita for a well deserved draw at Arlington Oval.

The first half was evenly contested with both sides constantly looking for that elusive goal.

Martinez and Allan found themselves free for Melita on a couple of occasions but were thwarted by a fine display of goalkeeping from El Zein.

Allan was unlucky not to put Melita into the lead early in the second half, but his shot sailed over the bar with the goal at his mercy.

From this period onwards, Canterbury pushed forward, but they found the Melita defence too strong on the day.

With one minute remaining Farrugia weaved his way through the 'Berries' defence only to see his shot hit the crossbar and

subsequent rebound deflected away.

Melita were well served by R McPherson in defence, McAusland in the midfield and Farrugia, who was always dangerous up front.

The Canterbury defence played above themselves. Thaminidis and Todorya continually tried hard up front.

CANT-M'VILLE: A. El Zein, T. Antonopoulos, G. Laws, J. Binos (P. Demetriou 57) J. Anagnostopoulos, T. Andreou (C. Papadopoulos 45), M. Todorya, S. Hantzis, M. Theodorakopoulos, C. Thaminidis, Z. Mickovic.

MELITA: A. McPherson, R. McPherson, M. Cross, P. Daley, R. McGinn, C. McAusland, H. Martinez (G. Ankudinoff 70), A. Jamieson (Duarte 45), D. Allan, R. Farrugia, J. McKie.

BANKSTOWN v YUGAL 0-0

Bankstown and Yugal fought out a tense draw in the rain swept game at the Soccer centre.

The first half was even with both defences holding out determined rallies from the opposing attacks.

Bankstown had the best chance to hit the lead. Beating the offside trap, Brown found himself clear, but his well struck shot went straight to the keeper.

The second half was played in the same style. Bankstown's defensive combination of Agostino, Beck and Rootsey could not be penetrated while Gogic and McIntosh were virtually unbeatable on the ground and in the air for

Yugal.

Bankstown's best players were Brown up front, Agostino in defence and King was strong in the midfield.

The pairing of McIntosh and Gogic in defence proved to be a winner for Bankstown.

BANKSTOWN: S. Giffin, C. Rootsey, A. Beck, R. Agostino, C. O'Neil, S. Blacktown, K. York (D. Beck 70), G. King, A. Bourke, W. Brown, J. Nocera.

YUGAL: P. Berry, M. Rendall, R. Gogic, D. McIntosh, J. Clark, M. Turkoglu, J. Karacan, S. Pahor, J. Morsello, S. Babian, S. Tanoski.

POLONIA v RIVERWOOD 2-0

Polonia held off a determined second half rally from Riverwood to win a tight game at Chopin Park.

The first half was keenly contested, but Polonia gained the upper hand through a brilliant goal from Ziggy Garlowski. Ortega beat a couple of Riverwood defenders, then passed to Smith, who in turn played a one-two with Garlowski, who made no mistake.

Riverwood started the second half in good style. The Polonia defence held out strong forward build-ups from Riverwood.

Against the run of play Terre sealed the issue for Polonia in the closing stages. Galas lofted a deft pass to Smith, who beat his man and sent an awkward cross which Terre chested down and put away.

Ziggy Garlowski, Ortega, Barker in goal and Thomas, before he was substituted were outstanding for Polonia.

Riverwood captain-coach Tracey was always dangerous up front. Juchievic and goalkeeper Gisbourne also played well.

POLONIA: I. Barker, I.

Garlowski, R. Geekie, A. Galas, M. Czelisk, D. Thomas (J. Terre 45), C. Ortega, A. Crossas, Z. Garlowski, H. Kowalczyk, K. Smith.

RIVERWOOD: R. Gisbourne, P. Mikas, I. Rysstrand, D. Forrester, D. Smith, V. Juchievic, P. Butcher, W. Coutts, A. Tracey, T. Jones, B. Parker. GOALS: Polonia (Z. Garlowski 35, J. Terre 87).

MANLY v AUBURN 3-2

A second half lapse by Manly almost allowed Auburn to collect a draw.

The first half was well controlled by Manly. They hit the lead in the eighth minute after a fine corner from Falconer was headed down by Smith to Shirman, who made no mistake.

Minutes later Shirman broke through, but was brought down inside the area. Smith had no problems with the penalty kick.

The second half saw a revitalised Auburn. A deft substitution by the Auburn coach paid dividends. After two minutes on the field, Greaves found himself unmarked in front of goal and pegged one back for Auburn.

Minutes later Auburn equalised. A free kick outside the area saw the Manly goalkeeper mishandle. Progornelja was on hand to tuck the ball home.

Manly pressed forward and were unlucky not to hit the lead after a powerful header from Falconer was

brilliantly saved by Bowman.

Another cunning substitution resulted in Manly winning the game. Scott ran onto a Smith pass and slotted it past the unlucky Bowman.

Manly were well represented by Shirman, Smith and Knobbe.

Planinic and Kilkelly kept Manly at bay. Bowman saved his side on many occasions.

MANLY: S. Ellis, B. Doyle, R. Geoghegan, K. Falconer, G. Noble, R. Jones, R. Shirman (A. McGrouther 80), G. Van Heldon (A. Scott 85), T. Smith, R. Stuart, P. Falconer.

AUBURN: D. Bowman, C. Quigley, T. Kilkelly, J. Planinic, C. Progornelja, M. Dale, L. Lunt, D. Bobananic (S. Greaves 55), J. McDonald, R. Carney, A. Allen. GOALS: Manly (Shirman 8, Smith 16, Scott 87). Auburn (Greaves 57, Progornelja 68).

BLACKTOWN v AVALA 5-0

Avala suffered their first defeat of the season after Blacktown crushed them in a second half onslaught.

The first half was very even with both sides having chances to hit the front. Avala were unlucky not to take the lead when a header from Burrows hit the crossbar.

Minutes later McLachlan took on three defenders, crossed the ball to Walker only to see Ahrens save off the line. The first half remained scoreless.

Walker put Blacktown into the lead following good lead up work from Pointer.

Minutes later McLachlan scored his first for the afternoon and the score was 2-0. Blacktown kept pushing forward and were rewarded with another fine goal. Good lead up work

by Stoddart left McLachlan with an easy opportunity and he made no mistake.

In the 85th minute Walker made it 4-0 after Kirwan and Rasmussen combined. McLachlan scored his hat-trick when he smashed the ball into the roof of the net.

Stoddart, Salvage and McLachlan played strongly for Blacktown.

Burrows and Hosseni tried valiantly for Avala.

BLACKTOWN: B. James, R. Wheatley, T. Rasmussen, W. Turnbull, P. Brogan (B. Thornwaite 80), C. Pointer, S. Salvage, J. Stoddart, B. Walker, M. McLachlan, P. Kirwan.

AVALA: P. Ahrens, J. Lembyk, S. Deller, M. Barton, Veichenovich, G. Milne, H. Hosseni, P. Bur-

rows, B. Karanfiloski (R. Yousuph 60), B. Tilt (N. Williams 25) A. Muniz.

GOALS: Blacktown (McLachlan 65, 70, 86, Walker 60, 85).

KU-RING-GAI v CROATIA 1-1

In an entertaining game Ku-Ring-Gai matched the strong Croatia side at Parklands Oval.

From the start, Ku-Ring-Gai looked for an early lead but they were struck an early blow when a badly directed back pass to Antman sailed over his head, hit the crossbar and Croatia's Arnold was there to slot the rebound home.

Eaton was unlucky not to equalise after a dashing run, but he was brought down just outside the area.

Ku-Ring-Gai gained the upper hand early in the second half and were rewarded when Regan tapped the ball to Eaton from a set move and he made no mistake with the shot at goal.

Ku-Ring-Gai held out a late rally from Croatia. The

defence soaked up the constant pressure from Arnold and Hensman.

Ku-Ring-Gai were well served by Jesse and Robertson. Eaton was always dangerous up front.

Arnold was a constant threat to the Ku-Ring-Gai defence. Basic and Watson were very safe for Croatia.

CROATIA: S. Watson, B. Wood, D. Tomasic, M. Kovacic, B. Vidaic, D. Rezo, W. Savor, P. Hensman, T. Basic, G. Arnold, R. Carrizzo.

KU-RING-GAI: P. Antman, D. Kevern, R. Scobie (P. Duke 72), T. Jesse, A. Robertson, M. Berry, T. Bertram, A. Brockbank, S. Regan, T. Gavin (S. Leak 80), C. Eaton. GOALS: Ku-Ring-Gai (Eaton 60), Croatia (Arnold 20).

MELITA v YUGAL 3-0

Melita salvaged some of their pride — dented in their previous game against Blacktown — by handsomely winning a deferred second round game against Yugal on Wednesday night.

Yugal were unlucky not to hit the front in the 16th minute when the referee disallowed a Rockodera goal.

The highlight of the first half was the McKie goal in the 35th minute. A perfect cross from McPherson to the edge of the penalty area enabled him to head it past the hapless Yugal keeper.

Play improved only marginally in the second half when we saw a more aggressive display from Melita.

Melita increased their lead through Farrugia in the 69th and he sealed the game in the 83rd minute when he latched onto a

McCoy pass and let go with an unstoppable screamer from 30 metres.

Yugal were well served by McIntosh in defence, Berry despite the scoreline and Babian pressured the Melita defence, but lacked forward support.

It was a fine team effort by Melita, highlighted by some fine performances from Farrugia, McKie and Daley.

MELITA: A. McPherson, R. McPherson, M. Cross, P. Daley, R. McGinn, C. McAusland, H. Martinez (D. Duarte 54), A. Jamieson, D. Allan, R. Farrugia, J. McKie (G. McCoy 81).

YUGAL: P. Berry, M. Rendall, R. Gogic, D. McIntosh, J. Clark, M. Turkoglu, A. Rokodera, J. Karacan (Mihaljovic 71), J. Morsello (Pahor 45), S. Babian, S. Tanoski. GOALS: Melita (McKie 35, Farrugia 69, 83).

NSW TABLES

STATE LEAGUE

DIVISION 1 - GRADE 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sutherland	4	3	1	-	7	2	7
Blacktown	4	3	-	1	11	4	6
Croatia*	3	2	1	-	7	1	5
Melita	4	2	1	1	6	2	5
Manly	4	2	1	1	8	5	5
Polonia	4	1	2	1	8	7	4
Inter-Monaro	4	1	2	1	7	7	4
Yugal	4	1	2	1	4	5	4
Cant-M'ville	4	1	1	2	3	6	3
Avala	4	-	3	1	3	8	3
Ku-Ring-Gai*	3	-	2	1	2	3	2
Riverwood	4	1	-	3	4	7	2
Bankstown*	3	-	2	1	2	5	2
Auburn*	3	-	-	3	3	10	-

* Denotes game in hand

DIVISION 1 - GRADE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Melita	4	3	1	-	16	5	7
Blacktown	4	3	1	-	12	5	7
Bankstown*	3	3	-	-	8	1	6
Sutherland	4	3	-	1	7	2	6
Croatia*	3	2	1	-	6	3	5
Cant-M'ville	4	2	-	2	8	6	4
Manly	4	2	-	2	7	8	4
Ku-Ring-Gai*	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Auburn*	3	1	-	2	6	7	2
Avala	4	1	-	3	6	10	2
Riverwood	4	1	-	3	6	10	2
Polonia	4	1	-	3	5	9	2
Yugal	4	1	-	3	2	13	2
Inter-Monaro	4	-	-	4	1	13	-

DIVISION 1 - GRADE 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Cant-M'ville	4	3	1	-	11	2	7
Sutherland	3	3	-	-	9	2	6
Croatia*	3	2	1	-	13	2	5
Manly	3	2	1	-	14	6	5
Polonia	4	2	1	1	6	7	5
Melita	4	2	-	2	4	5	4
Blacktown	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Bankstown*	3	1	-	2	8	7	2
Auburn*	2	1	-	1	7	9	2
Avala	3	1	-	2	4	6	2
Ku-Ring-Gai*	3	1	-	2	3	8	2
Riverwood	4	-	1	3	4	18	1
Yugal	3	-	-	3	1	8	-

DIVISION 2 - GRADE 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Fairymeadow	4	3	1	-	8	3	7
Gladesville*	3	3	-	-	10	4	6
Warr-N'been*	3	2	1	-	6	2	5
W'gong Utd	4	2	1	1	7	4	5
Dee Why	4	2	1	1	8	6	5
Penrith Utd	4	1	3	-	3	1	5
Rev Workers*	3	1	2	-	9	4	4
Rockdale*	3	2	-	1	6	5	4
Blacktown Utd	3	1	-	2	3	3	2
Artamon	4	1	-	3	8	9	2
N Bankstown*	3	1	-	2	3	6	2
Parr City	4	-	1	3	1	8	1
Uni of NSW*	3	-	-	3	7	-	-
Belmore*	3	-	-	3	-	10	-

DIVISION 2 - GRADE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Fairymeadow	4	3	1	-	12	4	7
W'gong Utd	4	3	-	1	13	7	6
G'ville*	3	2	1	-	9	3	5
Parr City	4	2	1	1	6	6	5
Rev Workers*	3	2	-	1	4	1	4
Penrith	4	2	-	2	6	5	4
N Bankstown*	3	1	2	-	4	3	4
Warr-N'been*	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
Belmore	4	1	1	2	8	9	3
Artamon	4	1	1	2	8	12	3
Dee Why	4	1	1	2	2	8	3
Rockdale*	3	1	-	2	5	2	2
Uni of NSW	4	-	1	3	3	13	1
Blacktown Utd	3	-	-	3	1	6	-

DIVISION 2 - GRADE 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Penrith Utd	4	3	1	-	14	5	7
Fairymeadow	4	3	-	1	18	9	6
Dee Why	4	2	1	1	10	8	5
Rockdale*	3	2	1	-	2	1	5
Warr-N'been*	3	2	-	1	9	5	4
Artamon	3	1	2	1	6	5	4
Parr City	4	2	-	2	5	4	4
W'gong Utd	4	1	2	1	7	8	4
Belmore	4	1	-	3	5	7	2
N Bankstown*	3	1	-	2	6	7	2
Gladesville*	3	-	2	1	2	3	2
Uni of NSW*	3	-	2	1	2	5	2
Rev Workers	4	1	-	3	3	16	2
Blacktown Utd*	3	-	1	2	3	9	1

o Denotes won or forfeit

WARREN'S WORLD



Slater tipped for stardom

One young man with more on his mind than most in the coming weeks will be St George striker Robbie Slater.

For Slater, out of action for the past seven weeks, is waging his own private battle to get fit enough to force his way back into Saints' first team and also to make a last minute bid for selection in Australia's Mexican bound World Youth team.

Slater suffered a cracked fibula against Sydney Slickers in the pre-season Ampol Cup — an injury that has dealt Slater's Young Socceroo aspirations as well as Saints' championship hopes for 1983 a severe blow.

Daily private training sessions have got Slater back to peak physical fitness and a few trial matches have given him the "match" confidence that will most likely see him make his return in Saints home game against South Melbourne in Sydney next Sunday.

One interested observer at that match will be national coach Les Scheinflug who, although well endowed with striking talent in the Young Socceroos with players like David Lowe, Rene Licata, Rod Brown, Frank Farina and Danny Wright, could still use the talents of a Robbie Slater if he makes a quick and successful return to Saints line up.

Even if Slater fails in his last minute bid for national youth team selection the Saints will certainly welcome the return of Slater with open arms.

The Saints' have sorely missed the direct attacking skills and goalscoring ability of their young striker.

Their attack during his absence has been decidedly lopsided, lacking the balance necessary to free Dez Marton from the close marking that has blunted even his considerable scoring skills.

Slater was the find of 1982, costing Saints a mere £100 when Frank Arok signed the youngster from State League club Auburn's third grade team

at the end of the 1981 season.

Making his debut against Marconi early in last year's championship, Slater scored nine goals

for Saints and perfectly complemented the attacking skills of Dez Marton.

Naturally Slater would like to be back to top form tomorrow and force his

way into the youth squad.

A successful return for the Saints this weekend against South Melbourne will go a long way towards achieving just that.



Robbie Slater (right) acclaims a goal.

COACHING TIPS

This week's advice comes from national coach Les Scheinflug.

"Kids wishing to make it should continuously practice with the ball, making as many ball contacts as possible. Ball control with dedication are the two basic requirements for youngsters wishing to make soccer their career".



Les Scheinflug

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP

ASF President Sir Arthur George, St George manager coach Frank Arok and Australian Soccer Weekly's Keith Gilmore, John Economos and David Jack were some of the representatives of soccer at last Tuesday's Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup press reception.

At the reception, Alan Matthews, PR chief of the Commonwealth Bank announced that the Bank will continue to sponsor schoolboy soccer through the NSW State High School knock-out competition known as the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup.

When acknowledging the sponsorship, Ray Mullins, Senior Vice Pres-

ident of NSW Combined High Schools' Sports Association said that the CHS was most grateful for the Bank's continued support.

He added that the boost to soccer from the sponsorship would go a long way towards developing healthy Australians.

This year 288 schools have entered the competition which according to CHS Soccer Convenor, Gareth Williams, makes the competition the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere.

Williams went on to say that the Bank's sponsorship is directed towards meeting the increased costs associated with transport, accommodation and general ad-

ministration of a competition of this magnitude.

Last year's final was won by Marsden High when they defeated Punchbowl High 1-0 in the final.

Marconi striker Rene Licata and St Georges' — Robbie Slater played in last year's Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup.

The road to this year's final (to be played on August 17) means that the successful team will play a preliminary game, five rounds of eliminations, the quarter final, semifinal and the final.

Early first round results to hand are: Tempe High 3 Leichhardt High 0, and Asquith High 3 Carlingford High 1, after extra time.



Alan Matthews (left), PR chief of the bank, Ray Mullins, NSW Combined High Schools vice president and Sir Arthur George at the reception.

TOUR FOR SUPPORTERS

Last week we mentioned here that as kids we were lucky to travel to Manly or Wollongong with our respective school and club representative teams whilst today kids have the chance to travel around the world.

The same, of course, applies to parents.

They usually carted us all around Sydney for years.

Today that too has changed.

Our World Youth team's

qualification for the Mexico World Cup finals now sees the parents going along with the boys.

A supporters, parents and friends tour is being organised by John Lane of Stephens Sports Travel and, like all of Stephens' promotions, is excellent value.

Stephens are no strangers to soccer as they have handled the travel arrangements for the ASF during the Youth team's three previous tours to Mexico, Port Moresby and

Costa Rica.

Australian supporters may see the entire tournament, including several visits to the Australian teams training sessions.

The tour leaves on Sunday May 20, includes a day free in Los Angeles to visit Disneyland, before travelling to Mexico City, for the World Youth Championships.

For further particulars regarding the tour I would suggest supporters contact John Lane on Sydney 231 3833.

WIN A SCHOLARSHIP

Australian Soccer Weekly is offering its young readers the chance to win scholarships to my Soccer Academy at my property Gold Creek Homestead, just outside of Canberra, during the forthcoming school holidays.

Together with former Socceroo Ray Richards, we offer a different type of soccer camp to any other in Australia.

Apart from six hours coaching a day, students live on Gold Creek, one of the oldest rural properties in Australia.

Daily the boys visit the many tourist attractions of the national capital such as the War Memorial, Black Mountain Tower, Embassy Row, the old and new Parliament Houses, the Sports Institute and will attend one of the Canberra Arrows training sessions.

All young readers have to do to enter the competition is to fill in the form

below and send it to: Johnny Warren Socceroo Academy, P.O. Box 362 Belconnen 2617 A.C.T.

Coupon will be in Australian Soccer Weekly for the next three weeks and in the April 26 edition we will announce the lucky winners.

Canberra Arrows skipper Terry Byrne introduces

his namesake, Socceroo Gary Byrne, to the Governor General of Australia Sir Ninian Stephen before Sir Ninian, who thoroughly enjoyed the game, also brought the Arrows some luck, the Arrows thrashing Brisbane Lions 6-1 in a dream start to their 1983 NSL campaign.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

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SCOREBOARD Youth League

By John Economos

WEST ADELAIDE v ST GEORGE 1-0

WESTS: Sproul, McGregor, Dunn, McGachey, Arney, Herr, Brennan, Honeyman, Atras, Wormley, Heys. Coach: A. Vest.
ST GEORGE: Greedy, Skeen, R. O'Shea, Barton, Ratcliffe, M. O'Shea, Stone, J. O'Shea, Koczka, Wilkinson (Wilson 61m), Marton. Coach: F. Arok.
GOAL: 1-0 Wormley (43m).
CROWD: 2132
REFEREE: D. Campbell.

South Melbourne v Heidelberg 1-1

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, Xanthopoulos, Blair, Davidson, Halford, Murphy, Crino, Wooddin (Yzendoorn 69m), Brown, Egan. Coach: R. Rasic.
HEIDELBERG: Olver, McKie, Tansey, Spanos, McLeod, Valentine, Selemidis, Campbell, Lea (Vincent 52m), Yankos, Toro. Coach: K. Morton.
GOALS: 1-0 Egan (27m), 1-1 Campbell (46m).
CROWD: 15,000
REFEREE: D. Voutsinas.

NEWCASTLE v ADELAIDE CITY 1-1

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Burke, Watson, Tredinick, Mason, Senkalski, Cowburn, Jones (Boogaard 72m), Mountford, Lowe. Coach: K. Kaiser.
ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Shillabeer, B. Nyskohus, Banfield, Cole, Carter (J. Nyskohus 66m), Dods, Melta, Mullen, Maxwell, Rankin. Coach: R. Ferguson.
GOALS: 0-1 Rankin (12m) 1-1 (Mountford 45 m).
CROWD: 2352
REFEREE: K. Small

PRESTON v WOLLONGONG 3-2

PRESTON: Wilson, Petrovski, Jones, Todorovski, Ilioski, McMillan, Odzakov, Livingston, Ward, Lucchesi, Campbell. Coach: P. Ollerton.
WOLLONGONG: Preston, Willis, Pollard, Dunleavy, Vlietstra, Ainsworth, Fleming, Gaffney, Cotton, O'Connor, McBreen. Coach: W. Wallace.
GOALS: 1-0 (Campbell 28m), 2-0 Lucchesi (42m), 3-0 Lucchesi (56m), 3-1 O'Connor (65m), 3-2 Fleming (82m).
CROWD: 4,500
REFEREE: E. Venios.

CANBERRA v SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2-1

CANBERRA: Hoszowski, Young, T. Byrne, Murray, Bryant (Moutsopoulos 87m), G. Byrne, Cole, Stone, McLaren, Gibson, Redmond. Coach: G. Murray.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier, Jennings, Dakos, Herbert, Rogers, Raskopoulos, Katholos, Patikas, Phillips, Soper, Patterson. Coach: T. Docherty.
GOALS: 1-0 (Stone 59m) 1-1 (Katholos 60m).
CROWD: 4,100
REFEREE: B. Mee.

BRISBANE LIONS v MARCONI 2-0

LIONS: Lownds, McSkimming, Hunter, Marszalek, Niven, Hogg, R. Stewart, Ogden, Wright, Kelso (Daunt 76m), J. Stewart. Coach: S. Kistemaker.
MARCONI: Maher, Degney, Rizzotto, (Bozanic 64m), Henderson, Budini, McCu7loch, Carbone, Sermanni, Brown, Jankovics, Giannone. Coach: D. Collins.
GOALS: 1-0 Wright, (26m), 2-0 Hogg (43m).
CROWD: 1000
REFEREE: B. Monteverde.

YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	4	2	1	1	4	4	7
Marconi	3	2	0	1	7	4	6
Olympic	3	2	0	1	8	7	6
Wollongong	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
Sydney City	2	1	0	1	6	3	3
St George	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Newcastle	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Leichhardt	2	1	0	1	1	3	3
Canberra	4	1	0	3	6	11	3

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

Sat, 12.45pm International Sports Stadium Newcastle v Leichhardt.
Sun, 1pm St George Stadium: St George v Marconi.
Pratten Park: Olympic v Sydney City.
Ziems Park: Corrimall Wollongong v Canberra

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

AIS 0 v Wollongong 0.
Canberra 2 (D'Addario, Lamond) v Sydney Olympic 5 (Svinos, Petalis, Naumov 2, Koussas).

By Peter Russell

With only two matches played on Saturday in Canberra and the games scheduled for Sunday in Sydney cancelled, due to the weather, it was a bleak weekend for the Youth League.

AIS were hosts to the Wollongong Wolves at the strange venue of the College of Advanced Education ground, where, according to reports, the condition of the pitch was not up to the standard of the often maligned Bruce Stadium warm up ground.

As the result 0-0 might suggest it was a fairly even contest with play switching from end to end and both sides missing their fair share of scoring chances.

At the Bruce Stadium, Canberra Arrows were hosts to Sydney Olympic.

It was hard, even match in which both sides played good football. Two goals in the last minute of the game gave Olympians a 5-2 win.

Arthur Svinos opened the scoring for Olympic in the 2nd

Peter Ollerton of Preston said he was happy with the three points but was sad that Wollongong were allowed back in the game to flatter their efforts.

Ken Morton: "We proved today that we are not a pushover side as our opponents and a lot of other people have thought so far. I expect the team to improve with the inclusion of Scott Patterson, our new recruit from Box Hill."

Rale Rasic: "The kind of soccer we played today is the kind of game that will draw spectators back into the grounds. We intend to keep on playing entertaining soccer for the benefit of the spectators and of the game in general."

COMMENTS:

St. George coach Frank Arok dismissed suggestions that he might have to buy players to lift his team after the 1-0 defeat from West Adelaide. "We had our chances against West and couldn't take them."

"The goals will come and there is no need for us to go looking for new players."

"We have been criticised for playing an English-type game but that's what West played and it was an English-type goal that beat us."

"Saints will come good and it could even be against Sth Melbourne next weekend."

West Adelaide team spirit is equal to that when they won the league title back in 1978.

That's the opinion of captain Neil McGachey, who also led the team for that memorable season.

"Everyone is fighting for the ball and his teammates. We play to a plan and so far it is working," he said.

"I agree our scoring record is not the best — 1-0, 1-0, 1-1, 1-0 — but it's the points that count and I believe what our coach Alan Vest says when he predicts that one day we will grab all our chances and it will be a shock for the team against us that day."

minute with a low drive which went in off the post. Frank D'Addario equalised in the 40th minute after a good pass from George Kulscar.

The second half started as well as the first, with a goal in the second minute, this time from Mani Lamond for Canberra after he cleverly beat two men.

In the 55th minute Danny Serena scored what would have been the goal of the match, only to see it disallowed for an infringement.

Terry Petalis put Olympic on equal terms again in the 67th minute when he lobbed the ball over the advancing Chris Hummel.

Bobby Naumov put the Olympians 3-2 ahead in the 75th minute with a good drive. He added his second in the 89th minute with a penalty after Mark Koussas had been brought down in the box.

Just when everyone thought it was all over Koussas made it 5-2 direct from a free kick.

Willie Wallace of Wollongong thought that his boys had not profited enough from their chances.

By John Economos

Next Saturday at 3pm at the St George Stadium a big battle will erupt as the Saints take on Victoria's heavyweights, South Melbourne.

This will not be just a game between these two clubs.

There's much more at stake.

It's a test of strength between two states.

Since 1977, Sydney clubs have dominated national league soccer, but this year, Victoria is throwing out a very strong challenge to wrest this domination away from NSW.

South Melbourne has done some pretty heavy buying this year and have made it clear they mean business.

The Saints' manager coach, Frank Arok, told us this week: "If we can stop Souths on Saturday, we could be in big business."

"We have a lot respect for Souths but even more for our own team."

Good news for the Saints: Robbie Slater will make his comeback in this match.

His renewed partnership

Saints ready to march home

with Dez Marton could just produce those goals that the Saints need to keep the points at home.



ST GEORGE COACH FRANK AROK

Saints have badly missed Slatters' pace on the flank to open up play.

What adds piquancy to the match is that Australia's two more colorful coaches will be sitting on adjoining benches.

One, of course, will be Frank Arok, very much at home in St. George stadium.

The other will be Rale

Rasic who himself led the Saints once, back in 1971.

Players from both teams, namely Blair, Greedy, Russell, Davidson, M. O'Shea, and Ratcliffe, will be out to impress Frank Arok to justify their selection in the Australian training squad for the coming Test series against England.

Seven other matches will be played in the NSL this week:

Heidelberg v Sydney City.

Wollongong v West Adelaide.

Brisbane City v Preston.

Newcastle v Leichhardt.

Olympic v Brissb. Lions.

Footscray v Canberra.

Adelaide City v Marconi.

TOP SCORERS

Egan (Sth Melb) 4
Kosmina (Syd City) 3
Mountford (Newcastle) 3
Redmond (Canberra) ... 3

NSL SCORE CHART

	AGGREGATE							HOME							AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
1. West Adelaide	4	3	1	0	4	1	10	2	2	0	0	2	0	6	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
2. South Melbourne	4	2	2	0	9	3	8	2	1	1	0	4	1	4	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
3. Preston	4	2	2	0	8	4	8	2	1	1	0	3	2	4	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
4. Heidelberg	4	1	3	0	4	2	6	2	1	1	0	3	1	4	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
5. Sydney City	3	2	0	1	4	5	6	1	1	0	0	2	0	3	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
6. Canberra City	4	1	2	1	10	6	5	2	1	1	0	7	2	4	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
7. Newcastle KB	4	1	2	1	7	5	5	2	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	0	1	5	3	3
8. Adelaide City	4	1	2	1	5	6	5	2	1	1	0	4	3	4	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
9. Sydney Olympic	4	1	1	2	6	6	4	2	1	0	1	5	6	3	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
10. Brisbane City	3	1	1	1	5	6	4	2	1	0	1	4	5	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
11. St. George	4	1	1	2	2	3	4	2	1	1	0	2	1	4	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
12. Leichhardt	3	1	1	1	2	3	4	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
13. Marconi	4	1	1	2	3	6	4	2	1	1	0	3	2	4	2	0	0	2	0	4	0
14. Wollongong	4	0	3	1	5	6	3	2	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
15. Brisbane Lions	4	1	0	3	4	10	3	2	1	0	1	2	2	3	2	0	0	2	2	8	0
16. Footscray	3	0	0	3	2	9	0	2	0	0	2	2	8	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

NSL SCORE CHART

	SYDNEY CITY	ST. GEORGE	WOLLONGONG	HEIDELBERG	PRESTON	STH. MELBOURNE	LEICHHARDT	SYDNEY OLYMPIC	WEST ADELAIDE	MARCONI	BRISBANE LIONS	NEWCASTLE KB	ADELAIDE CITY	FOOTSCRAY	CANBERRA	BRISBANE CITY
SYDNEY CITY	N									2-0						
ST. GEORGE		A			1-1							1-0				
WOLLONGONG			T				1-1									1-1
HEIDELBERG				I			2-0		1-1							
PRESTON			3-2	0-0	O											
STH. MELBOURNE				1-1		N		3-0								
LEICHHARDT		1-0					A									
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	5-1							L	0-1							
WEST ADELAIDE		1-0							.					1-0		
MARCONI						1-1				L					2-1	
BRISBANE LIONS	0-2									2-0	E					
NEWCASTLE KB			1-1									A	1-1			
ADELAIDE CITY										2-1			G		2-2	
FOOTSCRAY					1-4	1-4								U		
CANBERRA CITY							1-1			6-1					E	
BRISBANE CITY												2-5	2-0			.

NSL MATCH REPORTS

Marconi down to tough Lions

By Greg Russell

A brilliant goal by Australian Youth international Danny Wright and a promising debut from new signing John Stewart — the brother of young Soccerroo Russell Stewart — were among the highlights of a gutsy 2-0 Lions win over Marconi at Richlands Stadium.

Wright got the ball only about a metre from the touchline after a good challenge by John Stewart on Marconi keeper Allan Maher.

But the youngster showed his skill and defied the acute angle to blast the ball into the net.

Wright oozed confidence after the goal and continually took on and beat players before some cruel tackling left him sore and hobbling.

Stewart's involvement in the goal also helped him settle in his debut National League match.

The former Mount

Gravatt player, who has just returned from England where he lived for four years and played in the respectable Midlands Combination League, is playing on loan until an appeal on his \$10,000 transfer fee from Mount Gravatt is heard on April 12.

Stewart looked very effective in laying balls off to the midfield, particularly to his younger brother Russell, and picking up the knockdowns from big Barry Kelso.

He played a key part in Lions second goal when he flicked a ball on to the unmarked Steve Hogg on the right. Despite miffing four passes earlier, Hogg shot quickly and was delighted, as were the Lions officials and supporters, when the ball rocketed into the top of the net.

Five members of the Youth squad chosen to go into camp in Sydney this week took the field in this match and they were among the stars of their sides.

Russell Stewart and Wright were outstanding for Lions while Tom McCulloch, Rodney Brown and Joe Rizzotto had big games for Marconi. Rizzotto, though, was unfortunate

to injure his knee and had to be substituted in the second half by Vic Bozanic.

McCulloch was particularly stylish, despite the adverse conditions.



Young D. Giannoni (right) made his debut for Marconi in Brisbane last week. Here he is tangling with Lions' Alan Niven. — Pic by Carlos Picasso.

Bergerers rattled their more fancied rivals

By Con Nikolopoulos

Morton's achievement in upsetting South's star players enabled the underdogs to take control of the game for long intervals and dictate the pace.

Heidelberg had the better of the earlier chances but gradually took control of the game as South started gaining composure in the midfield through former youth international Oscar Crino.

Crino prompted a number of successive attacks through the midfield forcing Heidelberg's defence to pack themselves inside Oliver's area.

South had the first scoring opportunity in the 11th minute when Crino picked up a loose ball, brought it forward and laid the ball square to Charlie Eagan. Eagan stepped into the area but his hesitation allowed Oliver to move off his goal line and block the close range shot.

South had another brilliant scoring opportunity in the 19th minute from a Wooddin corner. The Kiwi international bent the ball inside the area spotting Doug Brown on the near post. Brown's scissor kick was cleared of the goal line by Jim Tansey.

Wooddin figured in the move which enabled South Melbourne to take the lead in the 28th minute. He took a free-kick from the left side lobbing the ball inside the area. Don McLeod rose in the air to clear the shot but only as far as Kenny Murphy. Murphy moved to the right flank and crossed the ball to the far post for unmarked Eagan who had no difficulty stabbing a shot into the net.

Eagan could have increased the margin in the 37th minute, had it not been for Heidelberg's solid right-back Ian McKie.

Crino burst forward and fed Eagan with a through ball but Eagan's shot was cleared off the goal line by McKie.

Heidelberg United had their first clear-cut scoring chance in the 38th minute when Derek Lea tied the defence in knots and attempted a shot from inside the area. The ball bounced off Xanthopoulos's head towards the net but the flying Davidson managed to hook it off the line.

Heidelberg increased their marking in the second half aiming at nullifying South's key players.

Until then, their best player Theo Selemidis had managed to blot out South master-mind Kenny Murphy, while Jimmy Tansey was tracking down Doug Brown, who had one of his most quiet days.

Credit must also be given to Don McLeod and Charlie Yankos for alternately controlling Charlie Eagan and Steve Wooddin.

So, while Ken Morton succeeded in containing Rale Rasic's danger men, his opposite number had no response to these tight markings.

Mike Valentine regularly beat Bobby Russell on his runs along the flank; Derek Lea often escaped Davidson's guard and Jim Campbell had Steve Blair running in circles every time the skilful midfielder was breaking forward.

It was one of Campbell's spectacular dashes forward that produced the equaliser 30 seconds into the second half. Campbell exchanged the ball with Lea on the centre line and pushed it forward to Toro. The Chilean midfielder sent Campbell through with a defence-splitting pass. Campbell evaded four successive tackles to beat Laumets with a powerful ground shot.

South Melbourne had the opportunity to go ahead in the 57th minute when Ian McKie lost possession to Crino on the centre line.

Crino exchanged the ball with Eagan to find himself in a firing position, but his shot was deflected by well-placed Oliver.

Heidelberg's energetic forward Derek Lea was forced to leave the park injured in the 52nd minute to make space for Robert Vincent. Vincent moved into midfield strengthening Heidelberg's grip of the game.

Steve Blair missed a brilliant opportunity to put South into the lead in the 60th minute from a Wooddin corner.

The international defender out-jumped his opponent and headed the ball for goal. Much to his surprise however, Oliver sprang in the air to put the ball over the line for a corner.

South had another opportunity to hit the lead in the 62nd minute when a series of criss-cross passes between Wooddin, Murphy, Crino and Brown brought Brown into a scoring position. Brown's well-weighted shot sailed narrowly over Oliver's crossbar.

Rale Rasic gave his new recruit, former Heidelberg sweeper John Yzendoorn, the opportunity to make his debut.

Yzendoorn replaced mediocre Wooddin in the 69th minute taking his position in the left side of midfield.

His entry to the game caused a minor reshuffle in Rasic's team as Murphy moved from the centre to the left wing and Jim

Canberra survive Olympic siege

By Steve Burns

Canberra Arrows, reeling like a punch-drunk boxer, grimly hung on for a 1-1 draw against the star-studded Sydney Olympic under floodlights at the National Sports Centre on Saturday night.

Canberra's heroes were goalkeeper, Steve Hoszowski and full-back Steve Bryant.

They both turned in magnificent solo performances although the whole of Canberra's defence deserves applause.

This time they held out the enemy to gain a point when in two of their previous three games only last dash defensive lapses had cost them three points.

It was a game of two halves, the first mediocre with Canberra ahead on points, the second gutsy and action-packed and full of suspense.

Once more Sydney Olympic showed why they are regarded as one of the best attacking sides in the NSL.

Before the game, both coaches said that neither side would be playing for a draw.

It was refreshing to hear them commit their teams to total, all-out attacking

soccer.

And that's largely what the crowd got.

And it was a big crowd at 4100 by far Canberra's best for some time.

Canberra started well and in the 5th minute the elusive front runner, Don MacLaren, tried a 35 metre drive that ended about a foot over the cross-bar.

With two exceptions, the best goalscoring opportunities of the first 45 minutes came late in the half.

The exceptions were a 20th minute run by MacLaren that saw him miff a good chance when in a one-on-one situation with goalkeeper Gary Meier and the other soon afterwards when Marshall Soper broke the defence only to shoot wide of the post.

Perhaps Canberra's best chance came in the 34th minute when MacLaren made a run on the right and crossed high for Gary Byrne to meet the ball with his head.

The header seemed perfect and Byrne was understandably disappointed to see it skim the cross-bar.

Olympic's best first half chance came right on the

interval when Jimmy Patikas chanced a great snap-shot from just inside the box that Hoszowski did well to save.

An incredible seven minute spell in the second half was what decided the outcome.

It began in the 53rd minute with a Sydney Olympic corner on the left.

The corner kick was struck high into the penalty area and up rose Olympic's six foot-plus Scotsman, Steve Patterson to send in a fine header.

In my view, the ball had crossed the line before it was cleared and ended back in the net seconds later after a goal-mouth melee — although by then referee Bob Mee had blown for a hand ball.

Three minutes later, Canberra was in front.

Duncan Cole was blatantly fouled on the edge of the penalty area and up came midfielder Ian Stone to quickly take the free-kick to catch the Olympic defence at sixes and sevens.

Stone placed his shot with precision well wide of Gary Meier.

In the 60th minute, Olympic were level.

Peter Katholos broke free on the left after sustained Olympic pressure and he tried a snap shot with Hoszowski caught badly positioned.

Katholos is credited with the equaliser, although young full-back Andrew Young probably helped it over the line in a desperate attempt to clear.

With so much of the half remaining one didn't hold much hope of Canberra holding out Olympic.

That they did speaks volumes for their defensive efforts, in particular Bryant and the acrobatic ability of Hoszowski.

Marshall Soper, Peter Raskopoulos and Jimmy Patikas, the latter twice, hit hard low shots that were all worthy of goals.

Each time Hoszowski managed to fling himself sideways with great agility to make the save.

And Olympic's goalscoring machine was blighted, and that in itself must have disappointed their mighty-mouthed coach, Tommy Docherty.

Canberra were delighted.

A point was vital and to have it witnessed by the season's best crowd was after all an added bonus.

NSL MATCH REPORTS

Westad held Saints at bay

By Tom McKain

Striker Paul Wormley burst his NSL scoring duck with the only goal of the match against St George at Hindmarsh Stadium — and it was enough to see the Hawks fly to the top of the league table.

The big 21 year old English front-runner got his head to a Steve Atsalas cross from the right in the 43rd minute to give Terry Greedy in the Saints goal no chance.

Atsalas had combined well with right-back Ian McGregor before setting up the goal.

And there were other chances for Wormley who

blew an opportunity in the 16th minute when he couldn't control the ball inside the box; then Greedy made a great one-handed save from a Graham Honeyman header.

In the second half a Wormley header bounced off the cross-bar while another of his headers was saved by Greedy.

In the dying minutes it was Graham Heys who rushed in and blasted the ball over the bar after Greedy had blocked a shot from Honeyman.

At the other end of the field Garry Sproul, signed on loan from Croatia to replace the injured Socceroo goal-keeper Martyn Crook who has had a knee operation, also had to perform some heroics.

One chance was a glancing header from mid-field team-mate Micky Brennan who had tried to stop a free kick from Robert O'Shea... and instead forced Sproul to dive and turn the ball for a corner.

Andrew Koczka looked set for Saints' first goal but put the ball too high. Paul Wilkinson headed over the bar after Sproul had blocked a shot from Dez Marton.

Koczka messed up a cross which could have seen Saints go in at the break on level terms.

Sproul had to save a Dez Marton shot in the 5th minute in the second half, and two minutes later Mark Barton hit the bar from a David Skeen cross.

Marton hit another wide, Koczka headed wide, then Barton was off target with a header as Saints threw everything into attack.

Coach Frank Ark used every trick in the book.

Centre-back David Ratcliffe finished up in the attack, Ken Wilson was sent on for Wilkinson, and Koczka moved to midfield.

But it made no difference against the well-disciplined West formation which refuses to crack, has more men in defence than attack or midfield, yet still manages to spring raids galore from the back.

But for the Saints offside trap, the score might have been bigger.



Lions' J. Stewart puts in a sliding tackle to stop Marconi's Tom McCulloch in Sunday's game. — Pic by Carlos Picasso.

NSL CUP

OLYMPIC v NEWCASTLE 3-1

Sydney Olympic stormed back in the second half to swamp Newcastle 3-1 in the National Cup quarter final at Pratten Park.

Striker Mark Koussas brought Olympic back into the action in the 62nd minute when he hammered a drive from seven metres into the roof of the net.

That goal ruled out the 38th minute effort from young Socceroo striker David Lowe who scored after a goalmouth scramble.

Olympic hit the lead after 70 minutes when tall striker Steve

Patterson volleyed home a Martin Rogers cross.

Peter Raskopoulos wrapped up the match in the 88th minute when he converted a penalty after what seemed a harsh decision against goalkeeper Clint Gosling who felled Koussas in the box.

STH MELBOURNE v CANBERRA 6-2

South Melbourne steamrolled a depleted Canberra City line up 6-2, on their way to the semi finals of the National League Cup.

South's performance was contrary to their mediocre appearance against arch rivals Heidelberg United, the day before, for they created enough scoring opportunities to record a prolific win.

Midfielder Carl Halford opened the scoring in the second minute with an angular shot from close range.

From then on the game developed into a South Melbourne monologue, as Canberra City appeared to be seriously hampered by the absence of their key players Redmond, Farina, Hoszowski, Paul, Ontong and Christopoulos.

Other goals came from Oscar Crino (54-57), Steve Blair and Charlie Egan.

Scorers for Canberra were Tony Brennan playing his first match after a long lay-off and midfielder Bryant.

Despite tremendous pressure in the last 10 minutes by West Adelaide the Victorians held out to run out very comfortable winners.



MARCONI OFF

The Marconi v Brisbane City match was called off just before kick-off — with less than 100 spectators in attendance.

The playing surface looked perfect — "like a green carpet," says our man Keith Gilmour — and even referee Doug Rennie was surprised at the decision.

However, the abandonment was ordered by the NSL.

Brisbane City coach Jim Hermiston was muttering a few dark accusations about the decision, vaguely linking it to "Marconi injuries" but the decision stood and the 100 or so intrepid fans promptly retired to the more hospitable clubhouse.

NSW YOUTH LEAGUE

City 1, Avala 1, Sydney Olympic 1.

UNDER 13:

GROUP A: Central Coast 4, Auburn 4, St George 4, Manly 4, Blacktown Assn 2, Ku-Ring-Gai 2, Granville 0, Melita 0, Canterbury 0.

GROUP B: Illawarra 4, Sutherland 4, Southern Dists. 3, Gladesville 2, Polonia 2, APIA 2, Croatia 2, Sydney City 0, North Bankstown 0.

GROUP C: Blacktown City 4, Bankstown 4, Sydney Olympic 4, Canterbury-Marr 2, Nepean 2, Baulkham Hills 2, Marconi 2, Avala 0.

UNDER 14:

GROUP A: Auburn 4, St George 4, Manly 3, Ku-Ring-Gai 3, Granville 3, Central Coast 2, Canterbury 1, Blacktown Assn 1, Melita 0.

GROUP B: Polonia 4, APIA 4, Sutherland 4, Southern Dists 4, Gladesville 1, Sydney City 1, Illawarra 1, Croatia 1, North Bankstown 0.

GROUP C: Canterbury-Marr 3, Bankstown 3, Nepean 3, Baulkham Hills 3, Marconi 3, Blacktown 3.

GROUP A: St George 4, Ku-Ring-Gai 4, Granville 4, Central Coast 2, Auburn 2, Canterbury 2, Manly 1, Melita 1, Blacktown Assn 0.

GROUP B: Sutherland 4, Polonia 4, APIA 4, Southern Dists 3, Illawarra 2, Croatia 2, North Bankstown 1, Gladesville 0, Sydney City 0.

GROUP C: Blacktown City 4, Avala 4, Baulkham Hills 4, Sydney Olympic 3, Marconi 3, Canterbury-Marr 2, Bankstown 0, Nepean 0.

GROUP A: Ku-Ring-Gai 4, Central Coast 4, St George 4, Auburn 4, Canterbury 2, Manly 2, Blacktown Assn 0, Melita 0.

GROUP B: Southern Dists 4, APIA 4, Sutherland 3, Gladesville 2, North Bankstown 2, Illawarra 2, Sydney City 2, Croatia 1, Polonia 0.

GROUP C: Canterbury-Marr 4, Avala 4, Sydney Olympic 4, Baulkham Hills 3, Blacktown City 2, Marconi 2, Bankstown 0.

Australian Soccer Weekly 9

Preston came close to blowing it

By Jock Stephen

The early moments of this match belonged to Zarko Odzakovic with many forays and one cross in the third minute which gave Claud Lucchesi a chance with a close-in header.

Phil O'Connor tried hard but their visitors were not combining as well as Preston so it was a quiet opening for Wolves. Preston put their game together better and it was no surprise when George Campbell profited from an Odzakovic cross to head home an opening goal in the 28th minute.

I felt that Wollongong's field placings might have been a little tighter than Preston's. Georgie Campbell made all the difference with his run from the half-way line to send in a great pass to the toe of Lucchesi after 42 minutes.

The Wollongong goal keeper made many fantastic saves right through the game and in the long term one felt that he saved the South Coast from being over-run.

O'Connor's class could have been better supported during his team's quiet period during the first half. This might have put

them right in the game much earlier. During those last desperate moments, I felt that Wollongong were psyching their opponents and it was happy music for Preston when the final whistle blew.

Preston seemed to have the game wrapped up by half-time and only had to maintain the swift and lethal attacks on goal to get three points.

Preston's third goal also scored by Lucchesi indicated this but that was a signal for Wollongong to click as never before. The sleeping Wolves were awake and O'Connor turned on the dazzling skills which attracted the Australian Socceroos: this boded ill for Preston.

His solo run was one of those inspirational and dazzling occasions which inspires a side. A goal by O'Connor opened Wollongong's account in the 65th minute.

Now the Preston players had to hold a strong attacking team and some hectic moments were experienced until Fleming broke through for the visitors' second goal. Best for Preston were: Campbell, Odzakovic and Lucchesi. Best for Wollongong were: Preston, O'Connor and Vlastra.

Teenagers Peter Rankin, Joe Mullen and Steve Maxwell, made up for lack of experience with sheer enthusiasm and clever ball-skills in Adelaide City's well deserved draw against Newcastle KB United.

A lot of credit must go to Adelaide for their adventurous approach, placing emphasis on attack rather than defence-in-depth tactics for an away match.

After Newcastle's 5-2 win over Brisbane City the previous week, much was expected from the home side in its bid to regain lost spectators.

But in the opening half it was City who showed the way to the goal.

After only eight minutes, Mullen had the ball in the net but the linesman's flag nullified the score after referee Ken Small had awarded a goal.

But the quick moving Adelaide forwards had the home defence on toast and in the 12th minute the ball was switched from right to left before Rankin stroked home the simplest of goals.

There was a disturbing lack of cohesion between Newcastle's midfield and attack resulting in the lack of positive constructive build-ups.

In fact Newcastle looked dangerous only in the set-play situations though Buggsy Nyskohus and Neil Banfield were determined defenders keeping close tabs on young striker David Lowe.

Despite pre-match promises by home coach Ken Kaiser that Newcastle would stage an all-out attacking display he had not counted on the fact that his own defence would be kept under such pressure from the busy Adelaide side.

Midway through the first half, striker Bob Mountford was severely cautioned by referee Small for a heavy challenge on goalkeeper Willie McNally — the confident Adelaide custodian requiring treatment before being able to continue.

Adelaide should have scored again in the 26th minute when a long through-ball from the skilful Les Carter prised the home defence wide open.

Maxwell gathered and ran on unchallenged before he tried to step around goalkeeper Clint Gosling but left-back Howard Treddinnick had time to race in

Adcity kids steal a point

By Myles Hay

to clear a dangerous situation.

Right on the stroke of half-time, Newcastle equalised with a goal that clearly emphasised the value of an extra forward.

David Jones sprinted down the left flank and from his hard-hit cross Mountford timed his header to perfection and McNally was left with no chance.

Though play tended to be scrappy in the second half, neither side depended on dull defence and a goal at either end was always a possibility.

The best chance of the period fell to Brett Cowburn when he was sent through on a gem of a pass from Lowe but he dispatched the weakest of shots goalwards for McNally to stop and gather.

In a desperate move, coach Kaiser had sent on rugged defender Michael Boogaard to take over from Jones resulting in the positional change of Cowburn taking up a more attacking position.

It was a well-earned point by Adcity but Newcastle couldn't have been too happy with their toothless display in which very few goalscoring chances were created.

Following up their hard fought effort of a 0-0 draw against probably the best women's soccer side in Hawaii, the Australian women's soccer team faced up to the first of three Test Matches on March 15 when they played a select Hawaiian women's side.

The game was played at a cracking pace with a very slight advantage given to the team who had wind assistance in each half.

The only goal of the match was scored with Australia well on the attack five minutes into the game.

Leanne Priestley, 20, a blonde striker from Rosedale, Queensland, was streaming towards the Hawaiian goal and seemed certain to score.

Crashing a shot at goal, she was denied her second goal of the tour when a Hawaiian defender handled the ball on the goal-line.

Julie Porter, a renowned penalty taker was called into the action and made no mistake in slotting the ball home.

The second test was played in conditions that were not good for high passes. Australia took the field running into a roaring gale in the first half of the game but it did not take the girls long to adapt to the conditions and they settled into a low passing game.

Sharon Loveless, a fast running forward from Western Australia, was constantly pressuring the Hawaiian goalkeeper.

This continued harassment paid off and from a

Women triumph in Hawaii

By Don Balmain

free kick the keeper fumbled the ball in an attempt to clear the line.

In the ensuing confusion with the Hawaiian defenders desperately trying to stop the Australian forwards from breaking through, a fullback mis-kicked and deflected the ball into her own net.

Changed team

In the third and final test match against Hawaii, the Australian coach decided to give the girls who had not played in other matches a run.

The series had been won and although there was a change in team players, the whole side had trained to the extent of all players combining into each other's play.

Australia was awarded a free kick which was taken by Kerry Millman.

Leanne Priestley, following through, got a head to it with Renaye Iserif also getting into the act, and pushing it into the net.

Two minutes later, the Australian forwards forced a corner and Kerry Millman floated a beautiful ball across which beat the Hawaiian keeper into the net.

Breaking away from the

field, Renaye Iserif, the tall, blonde striker from the NSW Central Coast, pounded a blistering drive at the Hawaiian goal which bulged the net.

With the wind behind them, Hawaii struck back with a vengeance and with the ball running exceedingly fast, a Hawaiian forward copied the previous goal and left the Australian keeper helplessly watch the ball fly past her.

Five minutes later, Linda Jackson, the star Hawaiian forward, broke around the Australian defence and bustled a shot into goal.

With the score at 3-2 the Hawaiian spectators urged their girls on and the Australian defence was extremely hard put to take the ball away from the eager local forwards.

Mrs Elaine Watson, the Tour Leader, was asked what the conditions were like over there and she gave some interesting comparisons.

The Islands Women's soccer association is concerned only with domestic matters and the international side of it has been delegated to travel agents to arrange.

The have had quite a number of overseas club sides visit the Island but this was the first visit from a national team.



Halimah Young, the young midfielder player in the Sydney Olympic girls' side. Women's soccer is rapidly gaining in popularity.

NSL PLANS DON'T SUIT ALL

By Tom McKain

Having read Peter Sheehan's letter replying to colleague Tom Anderson's article on the "clock and dagger" plans for super on regionalised leagues, we felt we had to reply.

While Mr Sheehan, the NSL's commercial director is obviously sincere in his claim that all is above board and there are ongoing talks with the NSL executive, officials, clubs and the ASF, he must realise that this is not enough for many officials in Australian soccer.

We have well meaning gentlemen who believe they know what is best for the game, and no matter what is put up front, they will insist on going there own way.

We would suggest to Mr Sheehan that there are clubs and officials in NSW who are planning a Super League and would be happy to see only Sydney clubs involved.

From Victoria a suggestion has already come from Green Gully boss Guy Spiteri, that Victorian State league clubs join with their current NSL teams, plus

the two Adelaide NSL clubs, to form a regional league.

This will not suit at least four SA State league clubs who are preparing for a regionalised league.

And one only has to read Fred Villiers column in this newspaper a fortnight ago when he pleaded for the Victorians not to become involved in any national league or a regionalised one, to realise the trend in Melbourne.

The tragedy of all this is that those people who now want to go back "to the way we were" forget that a national competition was set up because fans had become bored with the local fare.

And while there are some SA clubs who would take a punt on joining the NSL or a regionalised set-up, there are others who would do anything to prevent such a move.

They, like their Victorian counterparts, want the two NSL clubs back into the State fold, and any national competition dismantled.

PACIFIC SOCCER CAMPS



Frank Arok — PSL Coach of the Year 1982



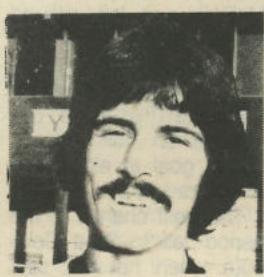
Richard Alagich — PSL Youth League champion coach 1982



Eddie Thomson — PSL champion coach 1982



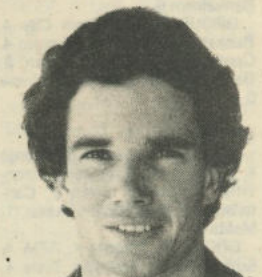
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Channel 7

• Five NSL Sydney clubs (R. Mossop Show) have 40 x 15 min. TV coverage compered by J. Warren.

Channel 2 in 1983

• Sunday match of the day — 90 min. full game

• Monday — summary 30 min.

Channel 0-28

• Sunday match of the day 70 min. (last year our team was on 7 times)

• Monday — summary from all games — 30 min.

• Friday — 45 min. preview of the next ground plus Ampol Cup, NSW Cup Final and top 4 competition etc.



PRINT

SOCCER COVERAGE IN NEWSPAPERS:

In 1982 we had:

• Daily Newspapers — 70 editorials, 50 match reports

• Soccer papers — 80 editorials, 90 match reports

• Local newspapers — 40 editorials — match reports

• Ethnic papers — 150 editorials, 60 match reports approx. 250,000 words.

ADS

In "Australia Soccer Weekly"

5 x full page; 10 x 1/2 page; 15 x 1/4 page;

plus in local and daily newspapers



RADIO

2GB (commercial ads)

40 weeks 12 x 30 sec.

• interviews

• talk back

• reports

It will be increased 2-4 times according to needs.

2UE

40 weeks 5-10 min.

reports and interviews

PLUS PLUS PLUS

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— Channel 2 = 100 million exposure

— Channel 0-28 = 100 million exposure

PLUS

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— match programs

— club journal

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St George B. Soccer Club



Above: At the St George Sponsors' Dinner, from left, radio station 2GB's, Keith Milton, Major Sponsor, Billy Rorke of 4-Sight, Saints' manager coach Frank Arok and the A.S.F.'s commercial manager Peter Sheean.



Right: 4-Sight's managing director and Major Sponsor of St George for 1983, Billy Rorke signing contracts with St George chairman of soccer committee, Les Bordacs.



Above: Left, Les Bordacs with executive director from Peerless Industries, Bob Potter.



\$10

Per week gets you —

- two reserved seats
- 15 guest cards
- two sets of 5 pieces club badges
- listing of sponsor's name at:
 - clubhouse
 - trophy room
 - club journal
 - match program
- sponsor's name will be announced on the public address system at the stadium during every home match.

\$20

Per week gets you —

- two reserved seats
- 30 guest cards
- one silver badge
- big set of club badges (ten pieces)
- three metre sign at stadium
- listing of sponsor's name at:
 - clubhouse
 - trophy room
 - club journal
 - match program
- sponsor's name on letter-box drops approx. 200,000
- sponsor's name will be included in soccer paper's ads

\$50

Per week gets you —

- four reserved seats
- 50 guest cards
- six metre sign at the stadium
- two silver badges and one big set of club badges (10 pieces)
- match of the day package
- the sponsor's message on 2GB 10 times weekly for 40 weeks
- 1/2 page ad on letter box drops approx. 300,000
- 1/2 page ad in club journal
- 1/2 page ad in match program
- special parking — white area

\$100

Per week gets you —

- one executive box (8 seats)
- 200 guest cards yearly
- ten metre sign at the stadium
- two silver badges and two sets of club badges (ten pieces a set)
- match of the day package
- the sponsor's message on 2GB 10 sec. 50 times
- the sponsor's name, telephone number and product in soccer paper ads
- the sponsor's name and logo in daily newspaper ads
- 1/2 page ad on letter box drops approx. 300,000
- full page ad in club journal circulation approx. 60,000
- sale of your product and promotion of it by players and coaches at home games

\$200

Per week gets you —

- name on the guernseys
- one executive box (8 seats)
- 500 guest cards

- two x 6 metre sign at the stadium
- one gold badge with precious stones, two silver badges and two sets of club badges (10 pieces a set)
- match of the day package
- the sponsor's message on 2GB 20 sec. x 50 times
- the sponsor's name, telephone and product in soccer paper ads
- special press dinner for announcement of the sponsorship
- sponsor's dinner — meet the directors
- the sponsor's name and logo in daily newspaper ads
- 1/2 page ad on letter box drop approx. 300,000
- full page ad in the club journal
- sponsor's product sale at your match of the day and promotion by players and coaches
- the logo of the sponsor on all stationery

\$500

Per week gets you —

- one executive box which will carry the sponsor's name
- all teams will wear guernseys with sponsor's name
- 1,000 guest cards
- two x 10 metre signs at the stadium
- two match of the day packages
- 100 x 20 sec. ads on 2GB with sponsor's message
- the sponsor's name and logo in daily newspaper ads
- the sponsor's name telephone and product in soccer paper ads
- special press dinner for announcement of the sponsorship
- sponsor's dinner — meet the directors
- 1/2 page ad on letter box drop approx. 300,000
- full page ad in the club journal approx. circulation 60,000
- two gold badges with precious stones
- two silver badges and 3 big sets of the club badges
- sponsors product will be sold at home matches and promoted by players and coaches
- the logo of the sponsor on club stationery

All costs & projections are approximate but at time of printing were as accurate as possible.

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☐ Please invoice me.

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Bobby rocks Adcity boat



JOHN NYSKOHUS

By Tom McKain

Coach Bobby Ferguson is sending shock waves through the Adelaide City camp.

The other week he started a purge which saw former Socceroo Johnny Nyskohus banished to the reserves along with young Chris Manou, a star midfielder last season, and centre back Chris Miller.

And Ferguson has promised to keep shaking up the side until it produces the results he wants.

Charlie Villani, another idol of the City fans, is having a tough battle to retain his wing spot over Jimmy Wright.

And even the latter, a former Scottish professional, had to take a back seat to young Peter Rankin when Ferguson fielded an all 18-year-old forward line against Lions.

Ferguson has centre back Neville Flounders to return from England, has signed Azzurri defender Phil Cole, and has Ron Campbell, a defender from Perth, on trial in training this week.

Chris Kent, the former City winger who moved to Melbourne, is back in Adelaide and on a month's trial.

Newmarket seeks new market

Brisbane first division club Newmarket will this year embark on one of the most ambitious projects ever taken by a Queensland lower division club.

The club is to send almost two teams of players on a trip to Hawaii and the American West Coast.

The teams will play in a number of matches including a tournament in San Francisco and a game against a Las Vegas invitation side.

And the club is awaiting the arrival of a top class American player, who will "guest" for six weeks. Already a Newmarket player, stopper Jim Reiken has been to America for a similar period and Newmarket officials expect the exchange of players to become an annual highlight.

The American trip and the exchange player program are among the innovative ideas the progressive Newmarket committee have undertaken.

Under the leadership of insurance executive Bob White, Newmarket has climbed out of the depths of lower division football to gain a place in this year's first division.

And the club is favorite to be promoted into the Premier League next year.

In only three years the committee has turned a bank account deficit into a health credit balance and rapidly improved facilities, including the erection of a new clubhouse.

White maintains there are no special secrets, just hard work catering for what players and supporters want.

Newmarket began the season well and crushed Rochdale 5-1 in its opening fixture.

Coach Ian Steele, a former Rothman's Medal winner, stresses that while the American trip will be a great climax to the season, his player's attention is now on the job of winning promotion. And on present indications that looks very likely.

Young Arrows aiming high

By Steve Burns

The youngster "between the sticks" in Australia's vital World Youth Cup final bid in June will be Canberra teenager, Chris Hummel.

He's one of a quinella of youthful stars available to Canberra Arrows in 1983. Another is doggedly determined defender Andrew Young — another ex-AIS prodigy, who surprisingly appears to have missed out on selection for the national youth squad.

during Costa Rica," he said.

"It remains the highlight of my life.

"But the greatest single game was the second game against Israel. It wasn't just the win, but the atmosphere, the excitement, the way Australia played.

"It was a magic moment, and one I'll never forget."

Young, of course, missed that experience — by a whisker. He was one of

Les Scheinflug's four "reserve" squad players but never made Costa Rica.

"Right now my ambition is to do well in the NSL," the talented 18-year-old said.

Although, through his father's job, Andrew has travelled between England and Australia many times, it was in Australia that he learned his soccer.

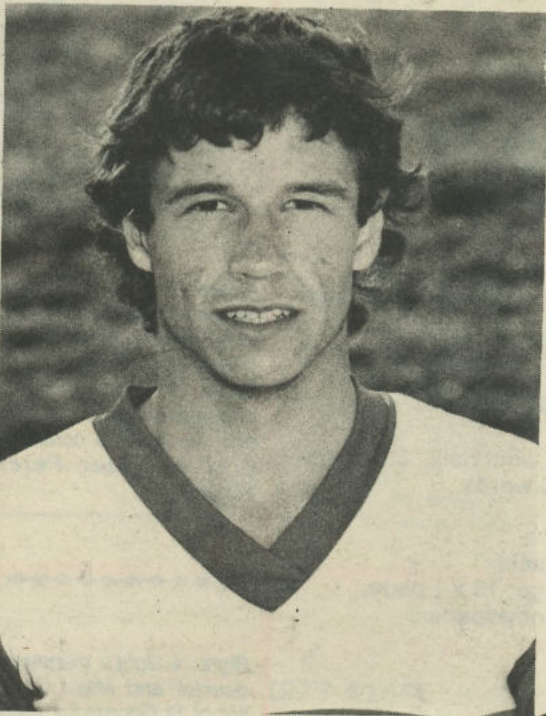
He, too, is a product of Canberra soccer.

"My junior development was with Melrose Lyons between 1971 and 1975," Andrew said, "I improved not just 100 per cent, but 200 per cent.

"But, I know I can still improve further. I have been disappointed with my distribution in the NSL and I'm working to improve it."

However, Andrew Young has already consistently earned not just praise from George Murray but other coaches.

He appears to have a big future in Australian soccer.



Chris Hummel, young Socceroos goalie



Andrew Young, former AIS captain

Yet many shrewd soccer judges rate Young the best defender for his age in Australia.

And that judgment Young has vindicated in each of his NSL appearances.

Hummel has not yet been given that chance because of the outstanding form of Canberra's goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski, but he is determined to hold his own in Australia's top soccer competition.

Hummel, in fact, is one of the youngest members of Australia's World Youth squad. He's still only 17.

Born in Essen, West Germany, Hummel arrived in Australia in 1969, initially to Melbourne, then Sydney and finally Canberra in 1973.

It was in Canberra that he learned his soccer. He is well-and-truly a home-grown product.

"I played for numerous Canberra sides," he said. "They included Melrose Lyons, Concordia Phillip, Kambah United and Weston Creek."

Despite his lack of height, he's only 5ft 8ins tall, Hummel's agility and fine anticipation saw him "capped" for Canberra in all age groups from under 14 to under 18.

Then came the AIS year and what he describes as "incredible polishing and learning."

And Costa Rica. "I played in all 13 youth internationals before and

Maitland's performance against Lake Macquarie in the opening round of the Northern NSW competition at Speers Point on April 10 is vital for the team's confidence.

Last year, Maitland were soundly thrashed in this match and coach Neil Townsend expects a display of greater grit against their more fancied opponents.

Robert Cox, who is Clint Gosling's goalkeeping understudy at Newcastle KB United, has been signed to challenge Norman Bruhn and Paul Lasance for the position.

Lasance is the younger brother of Weston goal-

Vital for Maitland

keeper Robbie Lasance and is said to have considerable potential.

Warwick Hill has been transferred from Lakes, while a capable Scot Robert Graham could secure a regular defensive spot.

Ian Purcell, last year's main central defender, is now working in Sydney and may not be available, leaving an obvious gap in the backline.

—M. Hay

Westad gain \$11,000 horsepower

By Tom McKain

West Adelaide has been given a financial boost with \$11,000 in cash from Yorke Motors.

And the Mitsubishi dealers have taken out an option for another three years, depending on how 1983 works out.

The selection of West was no accident, as Yorke's managing director is John Rickus, a former player with West in their Hellen days.

A Londoner, Rickus has continued to follow State League and national soc-

cer since his retirement from the field.

"It's nice to be able to put something back into the game," he said.

"If West have a good year we will be happy, and we could be looking at an enlarged deal for a longer period if things develop as we hope."

West already has a \$6000 sponsorship from Able Pest Control, and for their opening home match launched another money-raising venture — sponsorship of home matches.

This can be done for \$1250 and so far the

"bookings book" is filling fast and the club hopes to have all its home games sold by next month.

Flashy Arrows

By Steve Burns

A new-look, high fashion Canberra Arrows will take the field this weekend.

All fitted out in a complete new strip — just part of a fantastic new sponsorship arrangement with sportswear supplier, Admiral.

Admiral have supplied new home and away strips plus track suits.

Both strips will retain the basic colours of old.

They have been redesigned with the accent on simplicity — and less colours.

"Everything was tested and cleared beforehand with our principal sponsor, Lotto," said Canberra's secretary administrator, Karen Grega.

"The Lotto colours are retained but the design is so much simpler — in particular the large black numbers on the shirts which can be much more easily sighted from the grandstand."

Ms Grega said the shirt would be white with a yellow and red V or Arrow (for Lotto) with black numbers; the shorts were also white with yellow stripes down the side with the word Arrows printed across the leg. The socks are also white with a yellow and red stripe.

New signing here to stay

By Steve Burns

Canberra Arrows couldn't be blamed for thinking new signing John Walsh is a real will-of-the-wisp.

Or, in the vernacular — here today, gone tomorrow.

The saga goes something like this.

The season is about to start and Walsh turns up out of the blue at training and asks for a run.

His skills impress and it turns out that the 22-year-old fullback or midfielder did an apprenticeship with third division side Preston North End, but more recently had played for club side Leyland.

By trade he is a specialised printers engineer, but could not find work in Canberra. He played for Canberra against both Wollongong (Cup game) and Brisbane Lions and it was in the latter that he impressed.

12 Australian Soccer Weekly

Next day he is gone — to Southport where work has presented itself.

Naturally enough the Arrows let it be known they had lost Walsh.

Last week they had to change their tune. Walsh's courtship with sunny Queensland lasted a week. His wife couldn't settle and fortunately for him a job he'd been hoping for in Canberra eventuated, so he returned.

And, he could be a real asset to the Arrows.

Strong and highly skilled, he appears to read a game superbly and would be an asset to any backline. It's here, however, that perhaps Canberra is strongest and one can anticipate a real scramble for available places.

Certainly not, as I'm sure George Murray would agree, a situation to cause any coach grey hairs.

NORTHCOTE CITY — THE CLUB WITH A FUTURE

HERE they are — the 1983 Northcote City team.

Top row (left to right): Tony Vrzina (manager-coach), Sammy Wright, Collin Quigley, John Creaney, George Bozikas (captain), Craig Nisbet, Chris Katsakidis, Jim Sahinidis.

Front: John Giannopoulos, Steve Moore, Mark Wilson, Hyden Bol, Peter Constantinou, Branko Culina, Jeff Gorman.

Photo by Australian Soccer Weekly photographer: JOHN PUNSHON.



George Bozikas (left), the Northcote City captain, heads the ball clear of Tom Patsakos, of South Melbourne.

Photo by JOHN PUNSHON.

WITH the appointment of manager-coach Tony Vrzina, one of the most astute coaches in Victoria, and with a complete re-organisation of the Northcote City administration, the club is now looking to spread their wings and support Northcote Council's big spending to build a great club in the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

Finance director, Peter Plemenos, said:

"We must think big to have any chance to survive. The potential is with us but so far the club haven't done any good simply because we were organised in only a small way.

One of the most popular men in the club is ex-president Andrew Tragos who is delighted with the progress of Northcote in such a short time this year.

When the club rooms are completed at John Cain Stadium Mr Plemenos is confident manager-coach Vrzina will have the green light to build the best team in Victoria.

They're pleased with Tony's recruiting program on a small budget, and nobody is thinking of

New-look Northcote

— the team to follow in 83

*Last year
disasterous
Lots of money,
no result,
no team*

a disasterous run like last season.

President Nick Kyriacopoulos is also confident the new-look Northcote will attract bigger crowds and bigger membership this year.

So the club can look forward to establishing itself as a new force in Victorian soccer.

It has tremendous potential and with the hard-working committee it has at present the sky is the limit for Northcote City.

THE MEN WHO RUN THE CLUB

President: Nick Kyriacopoulos (company director).

Vice-president: Jim Yanoulatos (solicitor).

Treasurer: Jim Tsakonas.

Assistant treasurer: Michael Tsetsos.

Secretary: George Karastabrou.

Assistant secretary: John Tsitas (architect).

Finance director: Peter Plemenos (company director).

Ground manager: Andrew Tragos.

Assistant ground manager: Chris Panagopoulos.

Junior president: John Pappas.

Junior director of coaching: Emanuel Himonas.

Committeeman: John Trifonidis.

Team assistant manager: John Palmaris.

Assistant coach: George Sinodinos.

Club delegate to VSF: Steve Williams.

Club doctors: Chris Clifopoulos and Markos Martakis.

Manager coach: Tony Vrzina.

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Gully turn down Charlie George offer

GREEN GULLY has been told former Arsenal and Derby striker Charlie George and ex-England international Brian Greenhoff are available to join an Australian club.

But the State League champions has ruled out any interest in the players saying they "don't fit the bill".

"These two temporary visa vacancies will probably be our last chances of importing players from overseas going on the current trend at ASF level, so we want to make sure that the two players we get are top notch," Gully president Guy Spiteri said this week.

The club put out feelers about a month ago for players but so far have come up with only one or two names that fit their requirements and have now turned to their former club captain Jimmy Dunne for assistance.

"Basically we are looking for a midfielder and a forward, who must not be

By PETER DESIRA

over 28 and who has achieved something in English soccer, that is either played third or preferably second division," Spiteri said.

Dunne played 17 matches for Gully in 1980 before transferring to Brisbane City for 7000 dollars. He made 38 NSL appearances and was being mentioned in some circles as the next coach at City but his playing days were cut short with a shocking leg break in the match against Footscray last year.

He has since returned to UK and is now walking freely again - after nearly 12 months - but has been out of a job and is seriously considering emigrating back to Australia and turning to the coaching scene here.

For the present he is more than happy to assist Gully and is using the managerial contacts he established in 10 years as a professional at Millwall, Fulham, and Torquay to

find players that suit the club's needs.

"Jimmy has said that if the situation is not desperate we should wait another month. He says the Football Players Union is expecting a wholesale clearance of around 600 players on free transfers at the end of the season and is sure we will be able to get two top class players from that list," Spiteri said.

One player Gully has showed some interest in is Trevor Morgan, a former team mate of Alan Whittle at Bournemouth in the English fourth division.

Morgan, a 6ft 1in striker, was recruited from non League club Leytonstone in 1979 and was the club's joint top scorer with 10 goals in his first season.

He has not been ruled out as a possible recruit but the committee has opted to follow Dunne's directions and will wait till early May before making any decisions.



John Kanasoulis (South Melbourne) tries to take the ball past Croydon defender Gary Hobson. Photo by JOHN PUNSHON.

Channel 10 on the ball

VICTORIAN soccer enthusiasts were thrilled with Channel 10's one hour special last Thursday - the Soccerroos story.

They all voted Tommy Anderson's presentation was 'first class.'

More please. — Fred Villiers.

ARTHUR CALLS IT QUILTS

By CON NIKOLOPOULOS

Heidelberg's longest serving defender Arthur McMillan, has severed his relations with the Club.

McMillan asked he be placed on the transfer list, following his expulsion from the team since the arrival of Ian McKie, from West Adelaide.

His dreams, of ending his soccer career at Olympic Village, were shattered last week, when President Sam Gouloupoulos refused to guarantee him a position in the squad.

"We will be sorry to see Arthur go," said Club President Sam Gouloupoulos.

"For the past six years Arthur has given tremendous service to the Club and has become a leading figure among "Offering guarantees, is against our principles, at Heidelberg. We have always believed that the players have to win their position in the team", concluded Gouloupoulos.

our players. He is also the beloved boy of our supporters and a lot of them would have liked to see him ending his career at Heidelberg".

McMillan joined Heidelberg in 1977 from Hamilton Academicals and has played a total of 152 games for the Bergers.

Robert Vincent may find himself in a very embarrassing situation, if he does not hurry to sign his contract with Heidelberg United.

Administrators at Olympic Village are determined to have him loaded on a plane to England, "if he does not place his signature on the dotted line".

Apparently Vincent has deviated from his original agreement with the Club and has embarrassed the Committee with some additional demands.

"The guy is demanding the earth" stated a bemused Heidelberg official.

"He was happy with our initial offer and has agreed to sign his contract. His sudden change of attitude is having us all guessing what has gone wrong with the man" the official said.

"If he does not accept our original offer, we are willing to make him the example. We will have him sent home within twenty four hours, from our last meeting".

Interesting to note that Vincent has joined Heidelberg from Sunderland, only few weeks ago, and has been used on the strength of a gentlemen's

agreement reached days after his arrival.

Heidelberg administrators have another problem to contend with, their new signing Ahmed Awad.

The Egyptian international has demands "royal treatment" from the Club, before even sweating his gounsey.

"His demands range from colour television to bed sheets" said an infuriated Heidelberg source, adding that "the player's head has swelled up from the publicity the Club has given to his arrival at the Village".

Because of his unreasonable demands, Awad was dropped from the squad for the game against West Adelaide, and is likely to remain on the sidelines until he "realises Heidelberg is not a gold-mine".

DOVETON WAITING

DOVETON continues to bite on its nails as their efforts to fly over their new signing from Scotland continue to be hampered by the Immigration Department.

Graham Watson, the player the club has recruited, is ready to hop on a plane to join and play his part in the Doves' third State league campaign.

But before he can be registered, Mike McIvor, presently occupying Doveton's third visa vacancy, must be granted permanent status - and therein lies the problem.

McIvor who originally came to Australia to play for Footscray, has been with the Doves for two

seasons and has been patiently waiting for his permanency for the past six months.

In the latest enquiry by Doveton officials with the Emigration Department, they were told that the application by the player is all but approved and the only hold up was the result of a medical which is not through yet and is a requirement by the Department.

Mercifully Doveton's other pre-season problems are slowly clearing up.

Stan Webster has come down on his demands and will be staying with the club after all.

— Peter Desira.

Qld's Big Three will dominate

When the Big Three of Queensland soccer — Mounh Gravatt, Grange Thistle and Easter Suburbs — pulled out of the state league competition two years ago many critics predicted it would be the beginning of the end for the trio.

But after a year of being "out in the cold" the wisdom of the three clubs has come to the fore and now in the Queensland Soccer Federation's new Premier League they are set to once again resume their position among the leading teams in the state.

The three clubs are really having the last laugh this season as it was a Premier League — type competition they proposed when they withdrew from the State League, claiming the statewide competition was becoming too expensive

and would die a natural death.

The QSF made the break before that happened but the three clubs have been proved to be correct.

And it was with a vengeance that the trio stormed back into the top company.

Mount Gravatt made the most impressive start to the season when it crushed "Minnows" Taringa 6-1.

The Rovers, the bastions of amateur football in Brisbane, only came into the competition at the last minute when extra teams were needed to make a 12-team competition but unfortunately they didn't appear to have the big guns of their opponents, Mount Gravatt.

Midfielder Harry Stewart, cousin of national youth team midfielder Russell

Stewart, had a great start to the season and got a hat-trick.

Former State League leading goalscorer Gary Bohan, brother of Brisbane City midfielder Bevan Bohan, showed a season off had not affected his ability and he also got on the scoresheet.

Grange Thistle were very impressive in their 4-1 win over Brisbane City in the opening round.

Thistle got all goals in the first half but could have had just as many more in the second period.

City keeper Glenn Ahearn, signed this year from Sydney City, watched several shots whisk past the upright while he brilliantly saved several others.

Thistle midfielder and last season's Rothman's Medal winner Ken Swan, who but for a staggering transfer fee of \$8000 probably would have gone to city this year, was one of the chief destroyers for Grange and scored two of his side's goals.

Eastern Suburbs proved that pre-season form counted for nothing when they defied the critics who had written them off and beat Valley Trident 2-0.

Valleys were one of the leading teams in last year's State League but Easts, now under the control of Syd

Tuckey had renewed attacking power in Garth Jones and Tony Bright and were too fast for the ageing Trident team.

One of the surprise results of the opening round was Sunnyside's 2-1 win over Brisbane Lions. Lions have plenty of talented youngsters at the club but it appears the bad form of the first team has spread and the youngsters could not get it together against the Croatian champions.

Sunnyside's goals came from Ivan Frkovic and Frank Marenic, now back at the club after severing ties earlier in the season.

Ipswich United and Olympic won their matches as expected. Ipswich downed Acacia Ridge 2-1, with the Ridge's no. 1 Robbie Farrow showing his class and reinforcing the belief of many that he is the leading goalkeeper in Queensland, while Olympic edged out North star 3-2.



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White, Spink are praised

Victoria should be proud of its two young representatives to the Australian Institute of Sport.

Institute Director Jim Shoulder could not speak higher of young strikers Daryn White and Warren Spink, currently studying at the Institute.

"They are both great ambassadors for Victoria" says Shoulder, and "perfect examples of the progress Australian soccer has made in recent years".

Darren White, son of Victoria Director of Coaching Tim White, joined the Institute from Box Hill.

His list of representative honours include appearances for:

- Victoria U/13 State Team
- Victorian Youth State Team
- Queensland U/14 State Team
- Queensland U/15 State Team
- Queensland Youth State Team
- Queensland Schools Soccer Team
- Townsville United, in the State League of Queensland.

A level headed youngster White, has remained untouched by the complimentary remarks about his plethora talent, and the tempting offers, usually accompanying the flattering words of coaches and soccer officials.

TEAM SPIRIT PAYS

BOX Hill's Victorian State League success so far is due to team spirit.

That's how coach Bill Murray sees it.

He says he is happy with the progress of the side.

Bill forecasts Fawkner are going to be a great team this year. He said he was impressed with them in the opening game of the season.

Alan McKenzie was expected from Scotland this week. He's a 21 year-old striker from Livingston. He has six Scottish youth caps and has played for Milwall and Berwick Rangers.

Striker Paul Priestley is training again following a pelvic strain while Matt MacDonald, 22, of Whitburn, Scotland, who arrived three weeks ago was also training hard and could play this weekend.

One of the most enterprising players at Box Hill is Brian Keenan, 21, son of Joe Keenan a former Victorian star.

Brian, a striker, is now getting among the goals in top company. — Fred Villiers.

By CON NIKOLOPOULOS



Daryn White

Warren Spink, 1982 Junior of the Year, received the blessings of the Kaiser, for a successful soccer career, last year.

While in Melbourne with New York Cosmos, Beckenbauer presented Spink with the Weinstein Medal, awarded to the best junior of the year.

Spink's career as a junior has been equally as illustrious.

He has figured in all State Junior Teams, and was a member of the Victorian U/16 State Team, which took part in the Na-

Honored

Victorian referee Chris Bambridge, is the only appointment from Australia to referee in the final stage of the World Youth Cup.

It is Bambridge's first appointment in the middle and the likeable Englishman has been popping champagne corks, throughout the week.

Previous appointments include line duties for the World Cup Games, New Zealand - Taiwan and Kuwait-Saudi Arabia, and middle duties for the Oceania Group in Noumea, in 1979.

Bambridge received the news during the week, and his bosses at Patterson and Associates Credit Consultants, have engaged a telephonist to handle the stream of congratulatory telephone calls.

"I am thrilled with my first appointment", said Bambridge. "I am hopeful it will open the doors to the 1986 World Cup".

Bambridge is unaware of the games he will referee, but "he does not mind".

"My aim was to get there", he says, "I don't care which game I will referee".

Aged 35, Bambridge emigrated to Australia in 1974, from Northamptonshire, and has been on the FIFA list for the last five years.

Since his arrival he has commanded the respect of the soccer fraternity with his personality, ability and friendliness on and off the park.

He has been voted referee of the year for a record three times by the Victorian Branch of the Australian Soccer Press Association. — Con Nikolopoulos.

tional championship, in Sydney.

Last year, he made a tremendous impact on the State League, playing for Doveton. He played 8 full games for the Doves giving some real signs of his tremendous talent.

Shoulder is certain both players will feature in the team, he is hoping to field in the North League, if the Australian Soccer Federation proceeds with the regionalisation of the National League.

HANDS UP FOR NICK

NICK van Egmond raises his hand as Mark Brown (Croydon City) boots the ball clear from the South Melbourne player, at Middle Park Stadium, in a Victorian State League match.

Others in the picture are (left to right) Mike Rainey (No. 2), the former Socceroo captain Jimmy Rooney and referee Sam Zoumas.

Photo by Australian Soccer Weekly photographer JOHN PUNSHON.



Johnny wants to play with son

By PETER DESIRA

THE one lingering playing ambition John Gardiner wants to achieve before hanging up his boots is to play in the same team as his son Bruce next year - if possible in the State League.

And for that reason the Melbourne Croatia coach is desperate to keep himself fit this season even if it means joining a club in the lower leagues.

Gardiner is being hampered by the stubborn attitude of Green Gully which has refused to release him for anything less than the 5000 dollars stipulated in his contract.

Gardiner has been adamant against Melbourne Croatia paying that amount because there is no guarantee that his ankle - still not a 100 per cent - after injuries last year - will hold up to the rigors of matches on a regular basis.

Gardiner also argues that 5000 dollars is a lot of money to pay for a 35 year old and says that the fee is too high considering he gave Gully two good years of service.

Gully has countered by saying that it has honored all its commitments to Gardiner and that 5000 dollars is not too much for a player whose last competitive game was as captain of Victoria.

They say injuries are only temporary and that Gardiner would be good value for any side aspiring for the State League championship.

However Gully president Guy Spiteri has listened sympathetically to Gardiner's ambitions and says they would "probably look at approaches from a second or third division from a business point of view. The ideal

price would probably be around 3000 dollars."

John's son Bruce is still only 16 but is this year playing first team soccer at Murrumbidgee under Eddie Reid, whom Gardiner senior rates as a good coach.

John is confident Bruce will be able to make the step up to the higher grade in the next 12 months.

Miracle expected

Supporters would have expected wonders from Zoran Illoski if the new

signing had made his Preston debut at home.

"There was a lot of pressure on the boy anyway so I thought it a good idea to give him and Alec Livingstone their first full game away," said coach Peter Ollerton.

Preston has paid 21,000 dollars for Illoski making him the highest transfer of the season so far. Livingstone has arrived here from Scotland with a high reputation from Scotland.

Where do we go from here?

VICTORIA'S top State League clubs are asking: "Where do we go from here?" and some of them have their eyes on the new proposed National League southern region next year.

One man who knows what he wants for his dynamic side is Green Gully's Len McKendry.

He said this week it was time his team, and Melbourne Croatia, played in a higher league.

"I think we'll have to go to a higher league because we are not able to show all our attacking flare," he said.

"The only long-term solution for our clubs would be for us to play in a higher grade.

"We are good enough to do it which has been proved by both sides in the Ampol Cup also with the players we and Croatia have at present."

"Once Croatia was the backbone of the State League but now Green Gully are the top side as we proved with our Ampol Cup win."

McKendry said there is a difference between the State League and National League, mainly the grounds. They are better in the NSL.

"The National League grounds are bigger and faster, and allow more open soccer to be played," he said.

He said it was early days yet in the State League. "We've paid the price for winning the Ampol Cup. Sides are being ultra cautious against us but as the competition goes on more sides will be compelled to attack," he said.

— Fred Villiers

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No miracles — Georgie

SUNSHINE George Cross is not expecting miracles from Tommy Traynor and will be given time to adjust to Australian soccer according to president Alf Zahra.

Traynor arrived from Scotland last Thursday to take over a squad still overloaded by players from the amalgamation between the two clubs in the close season and playing far below expectations.

The coach, a 39 year old with playing experience in the Scottish first division and with a two year coaching stint at

Cowdenbeath behind him was recommended to the club by former Georgie winger Robbie Cullen.

Apart from taking over the large squad, he will have to make quick decisions on negotiations the club has undertaken with a number of players.

They include Mick McGorian of Frankston Pines who has been offered a contract and was at the time of going to press quite likely to sign, and Billy Morrey who has discussed terms but has not made up his mind.

— Peter Desira.

NEXT WEEKEND

BUFFALO SPORTS STATE LEAGUE

Saturday

Morwell Falcons v Doveton
Albion Rovers v Croydon

Sunday

Northcote v Melb. Croatia
Ringwood City v Green Gully
Juventus v Sth Melbourne
George Cross v Fawkner
Box Hill v Marlborough

DIVISION ONE

Saturday

Frankston Pines v Kew Park Rangers
Western Suburbs v Doncaster
Melbourne v Broadmeadows
Bell Park v Knox City

Sunday

Richmond v Moreland
Werribee v Altona City

ON THE BALL



Keen, young and enthusiastic — the boy with the ball is full of concentration.

Punishing schedule worrying officials

By Keith Gilmour

The England Schools managed to defeat the disciplined German Schools 1-0 at Wembley Stadium before a 40,000 crowd, but the problems they faced beforehand are similar to those seen in Australia today.

The players had turned out in local, district and county level matches in the punishing schedule that is faced by up-and-coming schoolboys and juniors these days.

John Robinson, secretary of the Sunderland Secondary Schools Football Association, admitted: "Some of our boys are dead on their feet."

"They are playing a match every night of the week."

"It is a worrying situation, but I don't know what can be done about it."

Sunderland are not the only people to voice their concern.

Most associations are worried by the demands made on their youngsters and the teachers who help out as well.

Despite the demands,

the England team won through, following up a 4-0 win under manager John O'Donnell against Northern Ireland three weeks before.

His aim to break down the disciplined German defence was met.

Three of the players turned out in top Gillette Trophy action on the Monday after the German game.

Dale White and Tony Nesbit played for Sutherland and Karl Goddard for Leeds in a match played at famous Roker Park.

The position is somewhat akin to what exists in NSW, where top youth players can be turning out in the Attack Youth League and perhaps in the National Youth League as well as in the Commonwealth Bank or Turner Cups.

And, then there are State representatives as well as regional games and maybe State championships, Metropolitan or Country championships and the end of season Champion of Champion series to round things off.

Aust and NZ under 15s to play in Test

By Keith Gilmour

Australia and New Zealand will meet in an under 15 international at Barton Park, Rockdale in early September.

The National Junior Council, aided by the resources of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation, will treat the match as a major promotion.

Whether the game will draw the 10,000 crowd that saw the England Schoolboys play Australia at Sydney Sports Ground in 1974 remains to be seen.

But, the Amateurs should be able to tap into their huge player and family resources to make things happen, especially

as many youngsters will be looking for something worthwhile in the football line during the school holidays.

The Test will follow the under 15 national titles in Sydney, which means that the cream of Australian juniors will already be assembled on the spot.

It is expected that National Director of Coaching, Eric Worthington, will be asked to select the team.

Other possibilities include former national coach Jim Shoulder, who would benefit by seeing future players to enter the Australian Institute of Sport.

Les Scheinflug coached the Australian Schoolboys against England.

Whilst the NZFA Junior Council were wondering whether they would tour, prominent junior official Bernard O'Flaherty met them in New Zealand to clinch the deal.

Barton Park is the ideal venue for such an important game, and ASW will do everything in its power to assist in promotion of what should be a day of days for the code.

Drought affects soccer

Many councils throughout Western NSW have been forced to ban all winter sports this year on many of their grounds.

Although the drought appears to have broken in many places, the rain has come too late to bring a cover of grass to playing pitches.

Soccer has been affected along with other sports.

Where water is available from adjacent rivers, the sporting fields have been saved for use in some cases.

It is a grim situation, and often it is not helped by the recession, which has bitten deeply into so many country towns.

However, keen players and associations will usually find some way to operate, especially as boys can often find somewhere to work on their skills in small-sided games.

KEITH GILMOUR'S JUNIOR SCENE



Grant Bard has been signed by the strong Sydney Olympic under 13 Youth League side this season. Along with Bruce Elysee joined Olympic after being with Chullora Wolves' successful under 12 team last season.



Terry Kariamias has been elected to stay with Chullora in the Bankstown Association. His teammates in under 13 football this year include David McGlynn, Jason Kannegeiser and Anthony Hyde.

Nat. Council decides title hosts

By Keith Gilmour

The National Junior Soccer Council has set out the venues for the Australian titles this year and in 1984.

This season the under 13s go to Alice Springs, under 14s to Brisbane and under 15s will be held in Sydney.

In 1984 Newcastle area will host the under 13s, Victoria will stage under 14s and the under 15s go west to Perth.

The Australian Soccer Federation has offered the National Junior Council two non-voting places on the ASF Executive.

This will enable the voice of the juniors to be heard, but it barely allows for democratic participation in the broader affairs of the game.

At this stage NJC chairman, Harry Croft of Western Australia has been appointed a member along with Rod Woods, the NSW Amateur secretary.

Woods occupies the secretaryship of Ku-Ring-Gai Association, the NSW Amateur Federation and holds the NJC secretaryship following the departure of Brian Emery to the post of ASF Executive Director.

It seems that there will have to be some division of those responsibilities. No matter how dedicated a part-time servant is, the load must be spread.

The Amateurs were obviously quite prepared to accept the non-voting membership, but whether

things will continue indefinitely without a vote being awarded remains to be seen.

Attending the meeting were Harry Croft (WA), Norm Wood (Victoria Junior League), Stan Dye (Qld), Ron Roberts (SA), Ian Holmes (NSW), Tom Strickland (Tasmania), Lee Davis (Northern Territory), and John Jones (Northern NSW). The ACT was represented as well.

On the local scene, the Ashley Brown Ovals at Seven Hills have been chosen to host the Centenary Cup competition for under 12 teams in the May school holidays.

Entries come from many parts of NSW and Australia generally. They close with secretary R Woods, 29 Yeramba St, Turramurra 2074 on April 10.

The players and officials benefit greatly from the venue, which adjoins the Blacktown Demons club and stadium, not far from the Seven Hills railway and shopping centre.



Atti Abonyi, one of the most skilful Socceroos of all time, is full-time coaching director at the splendid Englefield Stadium complex at Dural. Here he is putting a group of keen young fellows through their paces in the area in which he excels — ball skills.



Barry Kemp of Kurri Kurri High School is busy co-ordinating arrangements for the 1983 Bill Turner Cup, which covers the under 15 teams of secondary schools of all complexions in NSW. Barry's home contact number is 049 513 575.

Juniors to tour England

The Nepean District U-12 representative squad is looking forward to a very exciting program this year. In addition to the Metropolitan Championships, Centenary Cup Challenge and Mid North Coast Tournament, a three-week soccer tour of England is also planned.

The trip, organised specifically for Nepean, is being co-ordinated by Stephens Sports Travel.

It will include training by UK coaches and players, visits to first division matches at Manchester and Liverpool, playing local representative teams, five-a-side and indoor matches, a visit to Wembley Stadium and the possibility of meeting Sir Alf Ramsey, as well as sight-seeing tours.

All in all, it will be the chance of a lifetime for the boys.

The squad, recently selected, is now engaged in a variety of fund-raising activities.

Should any reader wish to make a donation towards the costs or part-sponsor the boys, coach Barry McClarnon would welcome any calls on (047) 6683.

Canterbury kicks off

The return of fine, warm weather brought out dozens of players of all ages for pre-season matches in preparation for the short of the Canterbury and District Soccer Football Association competition, which starts on April 9.

Typical of the pre-season games were the once-a-year social games between Roselea Junior Soccer club from the Carlingford area and Strathfield Junior club.

Strathfield, who have had a run of bad luck in early season trials, finally got their act together and finished the day with five wins, two draws and five losses.

Outstanding performances were put in by their 9/1 and 11/2 teams, who won 4-1 and 5-1 respectively.

The team to watch is Strathfield's under 13s, who demolished Roselea 11-2.

Some of the boys in this team have been together for eight years. With four new players coming into the side they should really make their mark this season.



"And when I'm talking to you, don't turn your back on me, number three"



National squad striker Mark Jankovics, now tearing defences apart for Marconi Leopards, with two players he picked out in a schools game at Marist Brothers High School at Eastwood. Mark was a keen schoolboy player himself at a high school in the Carlingford area of Sydney, not far from Eastwood. He represented NSW at schools level

Outstanding gains in top grades at Glades-Hornsby

By Keith Gilmour

For many years people were over-concerned about players leaving soccer after starting out as juniors.

The hubbub continued long after most of the solutions were evident.

There always is the inevitability of drop-outs as players move into other areas of schooling, apprenticeships, tertiary education, plus the need in many cases to move to new districts for work and other reasons.

And then there is the matter of marriage and building or setting up homes.

But, apart from all the education and social doings, soccer has its own way of continuing at the level of playing the sport.

Gladesville-Hornsby FA's current experience is a case in point.

Last year they fielded the Premier League in two grades and senior football down to Fifth Division.

This year they have moved a deal further.

In a tremendous gain for

better class amateur football, two Premier Leagues will be conducted for the first time.

In another huge boost all-age has received a phenomenal nine divisions of teams.

This is only one of the huge Associations that field a magnificent number of teams in senior grade each week.

Jim Smith, the president of the local Referees Association, has another view on matters.

His organisation started

1982 with 150 referees including cadets — surely a tremendous record.

Wastage over the year, playing commitments and so on whittled that down to 100 whistlers by the end of the year.

Now the Association has recruited 50 more to take the starters back to 150 for 1983.

Jim's trouble is that it takes four or five years to train a referee and then some are lost.

The training process has to be undertaken once

again.

"We want to get our standards closer to those of the referees handling National and State League games."

"This involves a tremendous teaching process and bringing in such a big new intake slows matters down."

"However, our classes have proceeded well and we can look forward to doing our best to providing for the huge entry of teams in the district once again," he told us.

Bega the right choice

Soccer can only benefit from the choice of Bega, on the NSW South Coast, as the centre for the John Amundsen Perpetual Trophy.

Teams were drawn from three states and the ACT for the big event. Karl Posselt and the Merimbula Grasshoppers Soccer Club staged the big event.

The ACT supplied their representative team and Coatia Deakin.

Northern Tasmania played, and Ringwood City, Mornington and Waverly City came from Victoria.

NSW was represented by Macarthur, the new association, Southern Districts from Sydney, and three associations from the coast itself.

Does your club need insurance?

Liability of participation involves the possible responsibility of the player for his actions during a game.

An open act may be involved or he could be the culprit because of his omission or neglect.

In the course of a game no liability may arise. Thousands of soccer matches have been played without any such problems but the smart club administrator as well as the player has an obligation to see that things are done right.

Could there be a criminal or civil charge when things go wrong, the question is what is the position of the sporting organiser, club president, secretary or other officials from a legal viewpoint?

What actions does a club have to take to protect the spectators and the crowd as a whole or, in the

case of an amateur or junior match played on an open field, what are the responsibilities towards the passers-by.

Thanks to R.E. Bott Insurance Brokers, some very clear guidelines and sets of advice have been established.

They specialise in sports and recreational insurance. The company can be contacted on 241 1781 in Sydney and 699 6799 in Melbourne.

We strongly recommend that club officials take advantage of this company's expertise in this field and avoid the risk of an unpleasant and costly insurance battle.



KEITH GILMOUR'S JUNIOR SCENE

NSW YOUTH LEAGUE

(PREVIOUS WEEK)

U/13 U/14 U/15 U/16

GROUP A

Central Coast v Blacktown Assoc.	5-1	5-0	3-2	5-0
Auburn v Granville	2-1	1-0	0-4	—
Manly v Melita	4-0	8-1	0-0	1-0
St. George v Canterbury	9-2	4-2	3-0	3-1
Ku-Ring-Gai Bye				

GROUP B

Polonia v North Bankstown	2-0	4-0	1-0	1-4
Illawarra v Gladesville	3-0	2-2	2-1	5-0
Croatia v APIA — Leichhardt	1-3	0-5	0-2	1-3
Sutherland v Sydney City	3-0	3-1	3-1	0-0
Sutherland Districts Bye				

GROUP C

Bankstown v Baulkham Hills	4-1	2-2	2-3	1-1
Nepean v Avala	2-1	1-1	1-2	0-1
Marconi v Sydney Olympic	2-6	2-2	1-1	0-1
Blacktown City v Western NSW	—	0-2	8-0	5-0
Canterbury-Marrickville Bye				

NSW YOUTH LEAGUE

U/13 U/14 U/15 U/16

GROUP A

Blacktown Assoc v Ku-Ring-Gai	2-1	0-0	0-4	1-3
Granville v Central Coast	2-4	4-2	6-2	—
Melita v Auburn	0-5	1-3	0-1	0-2
Canterbury v Manly	1-3	1-1	1-0	2-0
St George, Bye				

GROUP B

Nth Bankstown v Sthern Dists.	0-0	0-7	0-0	0-7
Gladesville v Polonia	3-1	0-2	0-4	9-0
APIA v Illawarra	0-2	6-2	2-1	2-1
Sydney City v Croatia	0-1	1-1	2-3	0-0
Sutherland Bye				

GROUP C

C'terbury-M'ville v Bl'town City	1-2	2-2	2-5	1-0
Avala v Bankstown	0-1	1-5	4-3	4-1
Sydney Olympic v Nepean	1-0	0-1	10-0	2-0
Baulkham Hills Bye				
Marconi won on forfeit				

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Junior clubs, schools and associations supplying stories and/or pictures to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY up to the issue of September 27, 1983 qualify for consideration for this year's prizes.

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The decision of the editorial staff is final. Keep your news and photos coming to ASW, Box 406, Broadway 2007.

SERDERON THE PLASTIC MAN PRIZE



Australian Soccer Weekly 17

KING JOHAN TIPS USA AS SUPER POWER

On April 25 — Anzac Day — the great Johan Cruyff will be 36.

His brilliant career took him, at 16, to Ajax of Amsterdam, then the captaincy of world vice-champions Holland, to European Cup trophies, to Barcelona, the USA and back to Holland.

Recently the Dutch weekly "Sportverreld" interviewed the veteran champion — currently playing with Ajax again.

Cruyff was asked about the huge salaries stars are earning.

"I think the average player gets more than he deserves," he said, "but the few outstanding talents deserve every penny."

"I'm not sure what Maradona cost Barcelona — but they'll recoup it."

Cruyff spent three years in the USA: one with the Los Angeles Aztecs, one with the Washington Diplomats.

"They were marvellous years, I really enjoyed myself there," he said.

"When I think that some 50,000 kids play soccer in



the Washington area alone and I might have played a part in this. I feel most satisfied.

"I think the natural talent in the USA is the most impressive in the world

and it will produce some fabulous teams there. It will take time but not too long.

"If they could secure the 1986 World Cup finals for the States, the game would finally make it there."

F.A. CUP FINAL

NOTHING BEATS BEING THERE YOURSELF.

Let Fred Villiers take you to the F.A. Cup Final on May 21st.
See the spectacle from your reserved seat.
Also, England v. Wales, May 24th and England v. Scotland, June 1st.

WIMBLEDON

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OR SEE ANY T.A.A. OVERSEAS TRAVEL DEPARTMENT

Villa goalkeeper Nigel Spink was everyone's hero a year ago when he came on as a substitute in the European Cup Final against Bayern Munich and held the brilliant Bavarians at bay.

But in this year's European Cup match against Juventus in Turin, Spink's dream of more Cup glory became a nightmare. In the 13th minute, he let a shot from Michel Platini go through his hands and between his legs to trickle over the goal line. And that put Aston Villa 3-1 behind following their 2-1 defeat in the first leg in Birmingham.

Ray Kennedy, transfer-listed by struggling Swansea City, is wanted in America — by Tampa Bay Rowdies.

The former Arsenal and Liverpool international star is not keen on moving across the Atlantic. At 32, he reckons he still has plenty to offer in UK football. He's been playing in Swansea's reserves and is open to offers.

England's 1981-82 player of the year, Frans Thijssen, is very interested in an offer from Canada's Vancouver Whitecaps. Trouble is, Whitecaps want him for the start of the NASL season this month but his club, Ipswich Town, want him to stay till the end of the English season.

In May, the brilliant Dutchman will be a free agent, but if he goes to Vancouver before then, Ipswich will demand a transfer fee.

Arsenal's England star, Graham Rix, knows you can't live in the past, but he reflected recently on what might have been.

"I often think what might have been if we still had Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton. We never did see the full potential of the 1979-80 Arsenal when Liam and Frank were allowed to drift away. They are world-class players and cannot be replaced."

Stapleton is in top form for Manchester United, while Brady is making huge money with Sampdoria in Italy.

Tales of clubs in dire financial distress crop up just about every week.

This week's "lame and infirm" strugglers are Sutherland.

Chairman Tom Cowie has bluntly warned fans that the first division club will be put up for sale unless crowds increase by 10,000 a match. He says he is ready to step down if anyone wants to buy Sutherland for a million pounds.

Cowie also said Mark Proctor, on loan from Nottingham Forest, would have to return to Forest unless Sutherland supporters rallied round to buy him.

These are sad days for Sutherland, a club which once boasted the greatest support in England per head of population.

Britain's transfer market has certainly slumped. A couple of years ago, any player of quality attracted \$2,000,000 bids — indeed, some of very doubtful quality went for that sort of cash.

But when recently Tottenham Hotspur bought Scottish international Alan Brazil from Ipswich Town, the fee paid was \$700,000. That would have been regarded as a "giveaway" price not so long ago.

Malcolm Macdonald, former England centre-forward and now manager of Fulham, has no doubts about Brazil being a smash hit at Spurs.

Said Supermac: "Alan Brazil will put Spurs back on the glory road. He is a marvellous buy at the price. I watch him and sense the same hungry anticipation I used to have when seeing the white of the posts. Spurs now have a player who can give them seven or eight brilliant years, who will pay his way in a short time."

Quote from English cricket all-rounder Ian Botham, now playing football with Scunthorpe United: "I'm looking forward to losing weight." Pity he didn't lose it before coming to Australia for that disastrous cricket tour.

West Ham United's supporters are supposed to be among the friendliest and most loyal in the game — but don't tell that to striker Sandy Clark.

Clark has left West Ham to join Rangers — the Glasgow club paying \$330,000 for Clark. He has scored 10 goals this season but that wasn't good enough for supporters who regularly jeered him.

Clark said: "I have always been a Rangers fan."

Manchester City have decided to get rid of their three highest-paid players.

Joe Corrigan, Kevin Bond and David Cross will all be released and this will save the Maine Road club \$270,000 a year in wages.

City chairman Peter Swales comments: "The way ahead is to develop our own players. We have been culprits over high wages and we have made mistakes — now we are suffering."

England winger Tony Morley, rated by many good judges as one of the finest forwards around, will probably be sold by Aston Villa.

Cash from his transfer — expected to top \$500,000

BRITAIN CALLING

— will allow Villa to spend on rebuilding their side. Morley was upset when he was dropped from the Villa team against Juventus in the European Cup. He said: "I'm not upset about having to fight to get my place back. I will do double training. But I know I'll be out as soon as I have a bad game."

While Ipswich are upset about losing Alan Brazil to Spurs, one of their other stars, Eric Gates, has decided he wants to come off the transfer list.

Gates, an outstanding winger or midfielder, has been on offer for the past six months. Just recovered from a broken toe injury, he says he is prepared to make a fresh start at Ipswich.

Charlton Athletic are being sued by Leeds United for alleged non-payment of transfer fee cash. They have taken out a writ seeking \$70,000 from Charlton for Welsh international Carl Harris.

John Greig, Rangers manager, was delighted when his team drew unrated St Mirren in the Scottish Cup semi-final. The draw meant Rangers missed the big guns, Celtic and Aberdeen, who play in the other semi-final.

Greig said: "We are slowly emerging from a terrible period, but we can make the Cup Final. That is the only aim in my mind at the moment."

Yet another attempted comeback for England and West Ham star Trevor Brooking. Brooking has been out of action all season with a pelvic injury but he is now trying to get back via the Hammers reserve team.

Tottenham's Glenn Hoddle, one of the few really talented players in England, seems certain to move to Europe when his contract expires next month.

Hoddle had talks last week with Italian club Inter Milan.

Three wins in 29 League games... that's Kilmarnock's deplorable record in the Scottish Premier Division. They're bottom. Of course!

British players can hit a gold mine (or an oil well) in June if they accept offers to play three exhibition matches in one week in the Middle East.

The players will be paid \$25,000 each for one week's work. Matches would be played in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

Ray Clemence, Kevin Keegan, Graham Souness, Ken Dalglish and Steve Coppell are among the players wanted. This will not please England, who tour Australia in June, or Scotland who will play in Canada.

Lincoln City have a new Board of Directors under chairmanship of a potato former Dennis Houlston. His first aim is to buy back the Sincil Bank ground from the Council. It was sold by the club during a financial crisis.

Jimmy Melia is no longer caretaker manager of F.A. Cup giant-killers Brighton. Melia has been given the managerial job permanently... or as permanently as such appointments can be in football.

Brighton's England centre-half Steve Foster doesn't have much love for the club's supporters.

Foster says: "We've got 7,000 really good hard core fans — the rest are just knickers. There would be some happy people if the team is relegated. Nobody in the club wants us to get to the Cup Final at Wembley and suffer relegation but a lot of our fans would like it."

Former Irish international goalkeeper Harry Gregg, who was one of the Manchester United heroes at the Munich air crash, has left his coaching job with Swansea City. Gregg claims he walked out but manager John Toshack says he dismissed Gregg.

Gregg says he quit because he was not involved enough with the first team and did not like being treated "like a little boy."

Toshack hit back with: "I have dropped real clangers this season and one was bringing Gregg to the club."

Gregg has been to see his solicitors!

ROBERTSON... ANDERSON... PROCTOR...



Mark Proctor (left) has not made the expected impact at Forest and has been transfer-listed at his own request.

CLOUGH'S SHOCK CLEAR-OUT!

THE face of Nottingham Forest football has altered dramatically since their halcyon European Cup days, when their players were household names across the Continent.

But as Forest brace themselves for a final push for a place in Europe next season, there could be more cosmetic changes in the make-up of Brian Clough's side.

And the major areas of doubt currently surround two of the players who figured so significantly in transforming Forest from the mediocrity of the Second Division to the heights of Munich and Madrid.

John Robertson and Viv Anderson, the only two players with unbroken service under Clough's management at the City Ground, have their futures shrouded in uncertainty.

In the case of Robertson, his contract expires at the end of the season and despite gentle pressure to cement his links to the club, he is keeping his options wide open until the summer.

As for Anderson, he recently returned to full fitness from a dislocated knee but finds his path to his familiar number two spot blocked following the signing of Kenny Swain from Aston Villa. He is now on the transfer list at his own request.

And although Clough steadfastly insists that he does not want to lose the 26-year-old England defender, he concedes that Anderson's career is at something of a crossroads.

"At the time that Viv was injured in England training, I was left in a situation where I had to do without him for a lengthy period... and that was no good to me," says Clough.

"I was so concerned about it, I came straight back from Scotland, where I had gone to watch an international and an Under-21 game, in order to sign Kenny Swain.

"In the time that Viv was out, Kenny did a magnificent job for me.

"Had I not gone ahead with the permanent transfer of Kenny it would have been bad management on my part. But now that Viv is fit again, I do admit that it leaves a certain matter to be resolved."

Bargaining

While Clough muses over that issue, he will no doubt face a bargaining session with Robertson when the time eventually comes in the summer for talks over a new contract.

Robertson, currently recovering from a cartilage operation, has had such an influence on Forest's style of play over the last five or six years that it would be difficult to imagine the machinery functioning effectively without him.

Clough has made overtures to re-sign the 30-year-old Scotland

winger but so far his attempts have been unsuccessful.

It is almost unthinkable for a Forest side to be without Robertson's silken talents but there must be a possibility that he will choose to end his 15-year association with the club.

By comparison, Mark Proctor has been resident at the City Ground for less than two years but it appears that his link could be terminated if other clubs respond to the granting of his transfer request.

Proctor asked to go on the list the day that Danny Wilson was bought from Chesterfield, but it's indicative of the transfer market that so little apparent interest has been shown in a player who cost £450,000 in August, 1981, when he was established as an England Under-21 regular.

As Clough reflected: "At one time it would have surprised me, but the way football is at the moment nobody can afford to make much of a move.

"I had a couple of inquiries for Mark but although I have read a lot

about managers going to ring me, I can only assume that they couldn't find the telephone number.

"It's a buyer's market all right, but you've got to have the money to make use of it."

Clough scraped enough together in January to buy Wilson from Chesterfield while Forest youngsters Steve Kendall and Calvin Plummer made the trip to Saltergate. And he could move again.

With injury sadly ending the career of Norwegian international Einar Aas and Colin Todd facing injury problems, it's a fair bet that Forest's next target will be a central defender.

As the Forest manager stressed: "I wouldn't swap our three strikers for any other club's three, and with the signing of Wilson we're quite well off in midfield.

"There are still areas at the back where things have got to be put right but I'm quite happy with us... very happy in fact."



John Robertson



Viv Anderson

WEST GERMANY

The giant Hamburg central striker Horst Hrubesch is likely to sign for the Belgian club Standard Liege after the current season.

EURO-CUPS

Draw for the semifinals:

Champions' Cup: Real Sociedad (Spain) v. Hamburg (Germ.), Juventus (Italy) v. Widzew Lodz (Poland).

Cupwinners' Cup: Aberdeen (Scotl.) v. Waterschei (Belg.), FK Austria v. Real Madrid (Spain).

UEFA Cup: Bohemians (Czech.) v. Anderlecht (Belg.), Benfica (Port.) v. Uni. Craiova (Romania).

First legs April 6, return games April 20.

ENGLAND

Following the near crash of their aircraft recently at Warsaw airport it has been revealed that Liverpool's team is insured for a cool \$16 million.

URUGUAY

Penarol star Jair is likely to be sold soon to a European club. The star striker's relations with the other players has become untenable following the team's win in the Intercontinental Cup final in Tokyo against Aston Villa. Jair won a car as the best player of the match—and kept it instead of splitting the proceeds with his teammates.

DENMARK

His name is Michael Laudrup, he is 18 and experts tip him to be Europe's next superstar. So it's small wonder that the young Dane was snapped up by Liverpool right under the noses of other interested giants such as Juventus, Barcelona and Ajax.

ENGLAND

FA secretary Ted Croker has announced that England will officially apply soon to stage the 1990 World Cup finals. Yugoslavia is also toying with the same idea.

WEST GERMANY

M'Gladbach v Karlsruhe 5-0; Hertha v Bremen 0-1; Kaiserslautern v Schalke 2-0; Bochum v Cellerkussen 3-2; Cup semi final: FC Köln v Stuttgart 3-2

AUSTRIA

Salzburg v Sturm Graz 2-0; Simmering v Union Weiss 0-0; GAK v Eisenstadt 0-2; Vienna v Klagenfurt 3-0; Lask v FK Austria 1-5; Rapid v Voest 4-0; Innsbruck v Sportklub 3-0; Neusiedl v Admira 1-1

HUNGARY

MTK v Nyiregy H. 1-1; Ujpest v Honved 2-2; Vasas v Varos 3-4; Videoton v Csepel 1-1; Zalaeg v Bekescsaba 1-1; Tatasanya v Pecs 1-1; Diosgyor v Debrecen 1-0; Ferencvaros v MTK 2-1

FRANCE

Lille v Mulhouse 4-0; Strasbourg v Paris St Germain 1-1; Sochaux v Nancy 0-1; Auxerre v Nantes 1-1; Tours v Monaco 2-2; Rouen v St

WEEKEND RESULTS

Etienne 0-1; Lyons v Brest 2-0; Laval v Bastia 1-0; Toulouse v Bordeaux 0-1; Metz v Lens 2-1

GREECE

Aris v OFI 2-1; Doxa v Yannina 1-0; Ethnikos v Panionios 2-0; Kastoria v Panserraios 2-0; Larisa v Apollon 2-0; Makedonikos v Panachaiki 3-0; Paok v Iraklis 1-3; Rodos v Olympiakos 0-2; AEK v Panathinaikos 4-1

SPAIN

Real Sociedad v Barcelona 1-0; Real Madrid v Athletic Bilbao 2-0; Celta v Las Palmas 3-0; Betis v Osasuna 4-2; Salamanca v Valencia 1-0; Rac-

ing v Valladolid 5-0; Sporting v Sevilla 1-1; Malaga v Real Zaragoza 1-3; Espanol v Atletico 1-2

YUGOSLAVIA

OFK Beograd v Buducnost 1-0; Vojvodina v Partizan 1-1; Vardar v Hajduk 2-1; Tuzla v Zeljeznicar 3-0; Vinkovci v Olimpija 2-0; Radnicki v Dinamo Zabreb 1-1; Galenika Zemun v Red Star 2-2; Rijeka v Velez 2-1; Sarajevo v Osijek 1-1

PORTUGAL

Cup: Porto v Braga 3-0; Benfica v Sporting 3-0; Portimonense v Boavista 1-0; Valdevez v Academica 1-2

Liverpool 'NO' to Nicholas



CELTIC striker Charlie Nicholas, currently the hottest property in Britain, will not be going to Liverpool when his contract expires at the end of the season.

Nicholas himself fuelled the rumours that he was on his way to Anfield when he recently stated he'd like to play for Liverpool or Spurs.

But Liverpool General Secretary Peter Robinson has made it clear that they will not be making a move for the brilliant 21-year-old

should he become available in the summer.

Says Robinson: "We understand that Celtic want about £700,000 for Nicholas. There are only about two clubs in this country who can afford that sort of money at present. We are not one of them.

"The problem with a signing of this size is that we wouldn't get a penny back, even in the case of such an outstanding player as Nicholas.

"Nobody would buy him from us at a later date at a penny more than we would have to pay for him and I don't believe he would add anything to our gates."

The recent £250,000 signing of Danish international Michael Laudrup makes it even less likely that Liverpool will now go for Charlie.

Twosome for Lake

By Myles Hay

Wayne Leary and Barry Boslem will again share coaching duties for Lake Macquarie in the Northern NSW first division series.

Leary will play a pivotal role in midfield, while Boslem will study the team from the sideline, after a leg injury brought about his premature retirement.

Lakes had hoped to secure the services of clever young winger Brett Gemmell on a dual registration with Newcastle KB United.

Unfortunately, Gemmell has suffered an injury in training which could keep him off the playing field for most of this season.

Goal scoring duo Kerry Caban and David Simpson will again lead the Lakes' attack, with Mark Twohill, Greg Baldwin and Jeff Youngberry challenging for the full-back roles.

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DILEMMA OVER NSL FUTURE

By David Jack

What will happen to the National Soccer League in 1984?

This is probably the most important question in the sport in Australia. There have been any number of inspired suggestions, hints from people who claim they are "in the know," and what could be called idle conjecture.

Hoping to separate fact from fiction, I asked Tony Labbozzetta exactly where the NSL was heading. As vic-chairman of the competition, Labbozzetta should know what is going on.

I drew a blank. "Nothing has been decided yet. There will be no firm decision for some time. Any stories you may have heard about a new NSL set-up are premature," said Labbozzetta.

In fact, there is a lot of work to be put in before anything can be settled.

First, the NSL executive will have to come up with a plan... maybe two or three different plans. That is only the first step.

Afterwards, the various schemes will be put to a meeting of the 16 NSL clubs. Assuming something acceptable is then agreed, it will go to the Federation, National and State.

In other words, there are many hurdles to be negotiated and, judging by previous experience of Australian soccer administrators, it will take a long time to get agreement.

It has been suggested that the NSL will be divided into two geographical regions and, in the process, it will be enlarged through recruitment of about 12 of the better-supported State League clubs.

Another plan being touted around would see the creation of so-called Super State Leagues, the leading clubs in which would play-off at the end of each season to establish Australia's champion club.

Yet another body of opinion is calling for the present NSL to remain untouched although, when we look at the alarming financial losses being suffered, this is just not on.

Headaches reduced

Let's look at the first suggestion. Undoubtedly there will be some saving in air fares if the NSL is chopped down the middle into northern and southern sections. This simply reduces the headaches currently afflicting the competition: it does not eliminate them.

A northern division of the NSL, embracing teams from NSW, Northern NSW and Queensland would still be cluttered up with "dead" fixtures.

Brisbane teams couldn't attract a decent crowd to their matches in Sydney. So the potential audience

at such games is automatically and inevitably cut by half.

On the other hand, the potential crowd will be made up of supporters of BOTH teams if a journey is feasible for the away team. In theory, match attendances could double.

This has always been one of the insoluble problems facing any national league.

In a country like England, a national league makes sense because the place is so much smaller and, with its excellent network of Motorways, football supporters can travel several hundred kilometres quickly and in comfort.

Even a journey from Lancashire to the west country, at one time quite a marathon, is knocked over these days with little trouble.

In contrast, nobody wants to drive a car from Brisbane to Sydney and back for 90 minutes of soccer.

Ever since it became apparent that gate receipts in the NSL were far smaller than the needed survival figure, I have been at-

tracted by the prospect of a Super State League in New South Wales.

It makes so much sense. But I fear petty politics will prevent its creation — at least for some time.

Such a league would involve two Newcastle teams, two from Wollongong, two from Canberra and eight from the Sydney area. I challenge anyone to pick legitimate holes in such a format.

Why then am I so pessimistic about it coming about?

Any compromise?

As I said... politics is the problem.

The present Sydney members of the NSL are determined they will never submit to rule from the present NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs. Some claim they will disband rather than accept the authority of the State Federation.

But surely there is room for compromise. Would it not be logical for the State and the NSL to merge, to share power and to work in harmony? Each body has something to contribute.

A Super League in NSW, under the joint direction of administrators like Karel Rodny, Tony Labbozzetta, Charles Valentine and David Dillon, is an attractive proposition.

And similar leagues in Victoria and other States could also pay dividends... with State and NSL officials sharing the administrative direction.

There is only one hope for club soccer in Australia. Officials will have to sink their differences, join forces and put the code of soccer first, second and third in their list of priorities.

I am sure the clubs in the present NSL would be willing to return to State leagues — providing they did not have to crawl back cap in hand asking for admission. The NSL people have proved their worth during the past six momentous seasons.

It is unfair for anyone to suggest that they must now get right out of the game and hand it back to State Federation officials.

Australia has just elected a Prime Minister who constantly used the slogan "bringing Australia together."

FROM THE PRESS BOX

Opinions are, understandably, sharply divided about ways and means of reshaping and restructuring the NSL.

However, it's almost certain that some changes will take place, probably creating two or more geographical zones, with 10, 12 or 14 teams in each.

Unlike so many others in possession of innocent faith, I am not sure whether this will be good for Australian soccer.

What is definitely not very healthy is the constant changing and chopping that seems to bedevil the game.

People, often the most raging neophytes in the game, seek and then produce instant solutions to highly technical and complex problems.

This, it appears, is another solution time.

Which I find unspeakably sad.

We in Australia are the greatest tinkers of soccer organisation in the world, possibly world champions many times over.

We dream up hasty ideas and hurry to implement them with child-like enthusiasm before quickly abandoning them.

And no wonder: the work that goes into our plans and blueprints is always insufficient, always based on superficially collected data and incorrect conclusions.

This is how the PSL was started, in post-haste; this is how it is now being dismantled.

And just before you want to convince me that I am wrong: the German Bundesliga was preceded by FOUR years of solid research and preparation...

Nothing permanent

Australian soccer, in its impatient, almost neurotic search for a place in the sun, lacks consistency. Nothing in our game is permanent except our frustration and mild form of neurosis.

Most of us are unable to understand why, despite seemingly Herculean efforts over the years, soccer (and here I have in mind only spectator-supported, senior soccer), still ranks way below our 'national sports.'

So we keep changing the rules, club-names, point systems, league compositions and anything else we can think of madly hoping to stumble on a surefire medicine.

It's like somebody hoping to solve that irritating Rubik-Cube through sheer luck.

What is about to happen to the NSL has already happened to the Interstate Championships, the Rothmans, Federation and Australia Cup and, more recently, to the NSL Top Four series.

They were started with high hopes and when they didn't produce instant miracles, were chucked.

I am not suggesting that the NSL is a viable commercial proposition; but then what is in Australian soccer?

Surely not the NSW State League where attendances at times hardly reach 100.

It could be that we don't need an NSL or even a semi-professional state league; it's possible that Australia, like so many other countries in the world, is destined to remain in the amateur or possibly part-time ranks.

I don't know. What's worse, neither does the ASF.

So for the time being we have to believe that the NEXT step, the next promotion, announced at the next press cocktail party will be the real thing.

If not the next then the one after the next. Or the one after...

Meanwhile we keep tinkering and mending our structure. It's our Rubik-Cube.

Andrew Dettre



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